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THE RIGHTS OF NATIONALITIES.

FOR some years past no phrase has been so often used in political writings as that of "the rights of nationalities," though (in spite of a few plain remarks on the subject by Mr. Mill) there is far from being any general understanding as to what a "nationality" is, or what the rights claimed for it are. As a rule, a man who declares himself in favour of "the rights of nationalities" passes for a person of liberal sentiments, and it is taken for granted that any one who questions those rights must be an enemy to freedom, and that their greatest opponents are naturally the despotic Governments of Europe. The fact, however, is that the nationality theory, owing to the vagueness of the terms employed in setting it forth, is one of the most dangerous ever broached. It is a weapon equally well suited to despots and revolutionists, and which, in the hands of either, may be turned against the best interests of civilisation. Originally, no doubt, the theory sprang from a liberal and just idea, and signified (to quote examples) that Italians and Hungarians ought not to be governed by Germans, nor Poles by Russians, but that every nation should be allowed to rule itself and develop freely the kind of civilisation peculiar to it. These rights, however, whether allowed or not, would have been called, fifty years ago, "national rights," and not "the rights of nationalities." The word "nationality" was fre-

quently used in 1814 and 1815, when the Treaty of Vienna was in preparation, but it simply meant the fact of being national. Thus, when it was desired to guarantee to the Polish subjects of Prussia their continued existence as Poles, a clause was devised binding the Prussian King to grant them "institutions calculated to ensure the preservation of their nationality." Sixteen years afterwards, when the French Chamber of Deputies adopted, for the first time, the declaration, which it so often repeated, that "Polish nationality shall not perish," every one understood this to be the expression of a determination that the Poles should not be extinguished as a nation, though Poland had long ceased to exist as an independent State. No one at that time said that Poland was "an oppressed nationality," or that the Poles under the Russian, Austrian, and Prussian Governments were "oppressed nationalities;" it was stated simply and correctly that the Poles were oppressed in reference to their nationality, which the partitioning Powers had, individually and collectively, engaged to respect. In the course of time, however, as the expression "*La Nationalité Polonoise*" became popularised, a concrete instead of abstract meaning was given to the word, and people began to look upon a "nationality" as signifying something less than a nation—either the fragment or remains of one, or the nucleus of one that had not yet existed. When the revolutions of 1848

broke out, "oppressed nationalities" were heard of everywhere, and meant, in the language of the period, any bodies of population differing in race, language, and national feeling from the governing race of the State to which they belonged. That they were "oppressed" was, under the circumstances, a matter of course; there was a national antipathy between rulers and ruled, and the rulers could only make themselves obeyed by causing themselves to be feared.

The rulers, however, soon found that the game of nationalities was one at which they also could play. Almost every "oppressed nationality" in Europe has some other "nationality" connected with it, which, if it does not oppress, at least has not succeeded in inspiring it with any solid feeling of attachment; and many of these minor "nationalities" are mean in proportion to their pettiness and historic insignificance, and willingly join with the despotic Monarch to resist the just claims of their superiors, simply because they are jealous of them. Thus the Croats did their best to paralyse the Hungarian movement. They were tempted by the Austrian Government to attack the Hungarians, for centuries their fellow-citizens, and to raise the banner of Croatia, which never before had a banner. They were determined that Croatia should no longer be known simply as an annex of Hungary, and preferred that their political parent should perish rather



RUINS OF AUSTIN FRIARS CHURCH AFTER THE RECENT FIRE.

than that she should continue her existence with the adopted Croatia as one of her provinces. If the Hungarians say now, "We wish to be governed as Hungarians," the Austrian Government replies—"Yes; but a majority of the inhabitants of the ancient kingdom of Hungary, including Croatia, is not Hungarian at all, but Slavonian. We feel bound to attend to the interests of this loyal though uncivilised portion of the population;" and the effect of this apparently liberal move, to which no one who is a thorough supporter of the nationality theory can possibly object, is to checkmate the Hungarians.

In Italy the Germans could make no use of the nationality theory. However they might differ ethnologically, the races of Italy had all adopted the Italian language, or dialects of it, and in Lombardy it was in itself to set the lower against the higher and middle classes of the population by appealing to national antipathies, the only national antipathies known being those which separated Italians from Germans. The sole way to gain the good favour of the peasantry and working classes of Lombardy was by exempting them almost entirely from taxation. This plan was tried, and so successfully, that there is no reason to believe the Austrians would ever, without the assistance of the French, have been expelled from the Lombardian territory, where the labourers took but little interest in the struggle one way or the other. The educated classes, that is to say, the landed proprietors and the inhabitants of towns generally, were full of patriotic feeling; but the poorest, most ignorant, and by far the largest portion of the population, had no interests at stake, and had quite as much to expect from the Austrian as from any other Government. When there are not two nations in a country in an ethnological sense, the two nations—rich and poor—which Augustin Thierry said he discovered everywhere, can always be played off one against the other.

In Galicia Austria discovered, long after the partition of Poland, an inferior race of men called Ruthenians, and endeavoured to persuade them that they formed a "nationality" quite distinct from that of the Poles. The efforts made by Austrian officials to raise up the Ruthenian, or Rusine nationality, may have enfeebled the Polish cause to some slight extent in Austria, but to an equal degree they have advanced the interests of Russia in that tottering empire. The Russians insist on regarding the Ruthenians or Rusines as their brothers under a false name. They were, indeed, closely related to them six centuries ago, and are something like twentieth cousins now. It will be strange if Austria and Russia should some day come to blows about the Ruthenians, Rusines, or Russians of Eastern Galicia, who have no history whatever apart from that of the Poles!

In the western provinces of Russia, or eastern provinces of Poland, the Russian Government has also Ruthenians to deal with, and seeks to raise up these "peasant slaves" against the educated Poles, who represent all the civilisation of the said provinces. Here, again, the cause of nationality is made to serve that of despotism, which knows that it can always find supporters among the lowest classes, and that it has only to fear opposition from persons who have inherited feelings of independence and cultivate freedom as a sort of tradition.

In Finland, too, Russia has contrived to profit by the theory of nationality. She has raised up a Finnish peasantry against a Swedish aristocracy and merchant class; and now, if any one talks of the "rights of nationality" in Finland, Russia may say, with truth, that she observes them, though by so doing she only places herself in a better position to deny the educated men of Finland the political franchises expressly guaranteed to them.

No power, however, in all Europe makes such an ingenious use of the theory of nationalities as Prussia. She ignores it altogether in Posen, where she has to deal with Poles, and proclaims it loudly in Schleswig, where Denmark has to manage a certain number of Germans.

Denmark, on her side, comes forward in Schleswig on behalf of Danish nationality; and when we find in the very same place Danes whom it is sought to Germanise, and Germans whom it is attempted to Danicise, and, moreover, that both endeavours are declared by their promoters to be eminently "liberal," we then cannot help thinking that the theory of nationality is, at least, a very imperfect one. Instead of talking about the rights of nationalities, we should, perhaps, do well to confine our attention to the rights of nations and of individuals. Secure these, and the ill-defined things called "nationalities" will be able to take care of themselves.

THE OLD CHURCH, AUSTINFRIARS.

If one could have looked upon London during its Mediaeval period, the eye following from point to point its picturesque outline, not the least of the interesting architectural groups would have been the wealthy establishment of Friars' Hermits of the Order of St. Augustine. A portion of its old walls only are spared down to the present time, with a few windows of extraordinary beauty, it having escaped the Great Fire but not that great devourer of antiquity "private hen fit," to which it eventually succumbed. The monastery was founded as long ago as 1253, by Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, "to the honour of God and the Virgin, for the health of the souls of himself and his descendants." Another Humphrey Bohun, his grandson and successor in the title, built the present church in 1351. The domestic buildings were all of good design, but the special glory was the conventual church, which had all the magnificence of a cathedral—a nave 153ft. long by 83 wide, with ample transepts and choir; the long perspective of arches, the windows filled with flowing tracery, bore all the characteristics of the Decorated period. The west window (shown in our Engraving), although a restoration, preserves all the geometrical arrangement which characterised the original. As time made its havoc in the monastic body the floor of the church was filled with monumental brasses, with effigies of priests and laymen under fretted canopy-work, the leading designs of which may now be seen in the empty sockets of the numerous slabs which intersperse the building. A constant external features of the edifice was an elegant steeple, one of the architectural marvels of London. Stowe calls it "most fine," and describes it as furnished with a spire "small,

high, and straight." "I have not," he adds, "seen the like." Most probably it was composed of that unlike tracery-work of the Decorated period in which the architects of that time were wont to luxuriate; and it must have been a pleasing occupation for leisure moments to watch the graceful lines of shadow from its form, which fell upon the turrets and high-pointed gables surrounding it. A tempest in 1362 overthrew it; but it was rebuilt, and stood an admired object until the year 1603, when an insected position to have it repaired resulted in its being taken down to avert the danger of its falling. The establishment flourished in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. from grants of land and charters, and became the centre of artistic, intellectual, and pious effort; and the very name of this beautiful house was synonymous with influences to illumine and dignify the age. On the 12th of November, 1539, Thomas Hammond, Prior, surrendered his monastery to the King; two years afterwards a portion of the site was granted to Sir Thomas Whittesley; the following year a portion was exchanged with Sir William Pawlish, Lord St. John; lastly, King Edward VI., in 1550, granted to the same Lord St. John (created Marquis of Winchester), "and his heirs in socage," all the upper part of the church, the choir, transepts, and chapels. The new proprietor used the building for the storage of corn, the choir he converted into a dovecot, and the monuments of noblemen, and stripped the lead from the roof and laid it with tiles instead. On the site of the cloisters and gardens the Marquis built a large mansion, the remembrance of which is preserved in the names of the two Winchester-streets and various others in the neighbourhood. The nave was not pulled down, but erected by Edward VI. to the Dutch, to be their praying-place. By letters patent, dated July 21, 1551, the King "appoints that John a Lasco and his congregations of Wallians should have Austinians for their church, to be called by them 'St. James Temple,' and to have their service in 'for avoiding all sorts of Anabaptists, and the like.'" It has ever since been in their quiet occupation, with very little change in its appearance, Austinians from the Netherlands being buried here. The Royal family of the House of Orange have attended from time to time, and the church was undergoing repair for the last three months, when the late demonstration, which almost completed its demolition, broke out, occasioned by the hot pipes from a stove igniting a piece of wood in the wall through which it had to pass. The flames rapidly swept along the interior of the roof, which fell in heaps of fire below, burning the pews and destroying a fine organ, also doing great damage to a library of more than 1000 volumes, some in valuable manuscripts bearing the date of 1524, and which were about to be handed over to the custody of the Guildhall Library. Dr. Goble is the present minister. This account is abridged from an admirable paper by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, M.A., read at the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society about two years ago.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

By a treaty concluded on Monday between the President of the Swiss Confederation and the French Ambassador the Valley of the Dagh has been ceded to France, in consideration of the cession of an equal extent of territory to Switzerland.

The *Opinion Nationale* has received a second warning for the publication of an article entitled "Martyrdom of the Clerical Party." The motives of the warning are stated to be, that the *Opinion Nationale*, "notwithstanding that it has received several semi-official warnings, has continued to falsely attribute all the acts of the Government to what is termed 'clerical influences,' and to misrepresent the liberal intentions of the Government of the Emperor."

The demand for articles de Paris has become so great that numerous workmen thrown out of employment in the cotton factories have been engaged at an extra rate. Others have found employment from the toy manufacturers, who, it is calculated, export annually to the amount of 7,000,000l. to Belgium, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Mexico, and Brazil. The gloves, perfumery, and artificial flower makers are in a flourishing condition. All the great forges in Paris are at full work in consequence of large orders received for machinery of every description. The present mild weather has been highly favourable to the numerous workmen employed in the buildings now rising in every corner of Paris and the suburbs. The manufacture of indiarubber has extended itself greatly within a few years in Paris. It was formerly confined to one house, and a large quantity was imported from England. At present the home manufacturers export largely. The manufacturers of zinc likewise continue to receive large orders for exportation. Great activity still prevails in the Faubourg St. Antoine, particularly among the cabinetmakers and in the marble yards. Large orders likewise have been received by the paperstainers in that quarter.

ITALY.

The Ministerial crisis is now over in Italy, and a Royal decree has been published appointing the following Cabinet:—Signor Farini, President of the Council; Signor Pisolini, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Signor Peruzzi, Minister of the Interior; Signor Pisanello, Minister of Justice; Signor Minghetti, Minister of Finance; Signor D. de Rovers, Minister of War; Signor Menabrea, Minister of Public Works. Parliament was to assemble on Thursday.

AUSTRIA.

The Reichsrath will be prorogued on the 20th, and meet again next May. The provincial diets will sit three months—from January to March. The new law upon the press will be sanctioned immediately after the prorogation. It seems that an amnesty for political offences, including those of the press, throughout the whole of the empire will be proclaimed on the Emperor's birthday.

A dispatch from Venice states that a statute for Venetia has been submitted to the Emperor. There is to be a Diet composed of fifty members, chosen by direct election, and naming their own president, and subject to the confirmation of the Emperor. The Executive Power will be composed of thirteen members, nine of whom will be chosen by the Diet and four by the Government. The Diet will have the right to revise the statute.

A difference has arisen between the Austrian Government and the Archbishop of Olmutz, Ludgrave of Bernstein, on the subject of a case of excommunication. M. de Schuerling, represented to the Primate that the measure was no longer suited to modern times, and that it had produced a very disastrous effect; but the Archbishop declared that by the Concordat he enjoyed a right to act as he had done, and would not allow his decision to be interfered with.

PRUSSIA.

Addresses to the King, and Royal replies thereto, continue to be the course of action resorted to by the aristocratic party in Prussia; while the popular feeling manifests itself unmistakably in support of the members of the Lower House by subscriptions to the national fund and every other means which the Government permit. In the most recently-reported of the Royal speeches the King said:—

The present movement is not so much directed against the new organization of the army as against the army itself. Attempts are being made to relax the military discipline, as has been especially proved by the late events at Grandsenz. The subscriptions in money which are now being made on behalf of those who are styled victims of their constitutional sympathies prove that a perfect consciousness of these tendencies prevails among the leaders of the movement, and that they try to extend them to many other questions. The necessity under which the Government was placed of acting against some far-reaching causes these national subscriptions to their behalf. The acts of the Government against these public efforts are made the pretext for pursuing aims of quite another character. The aim which is principally pursued by every means is the invasion of the Constitutional Government. The Constitution has not promised this, nor only legislation, with the co-operation of the Parliament. I am fully determined not to part with the Constitutional rights of the Crown, which form its power. Nothing shall divert me from these views, which I have pursued since I assumed the Regency, because they serve the welfare and the power of the country, which requires a powerful Crown and a powerful army. The leaders of the present movement, who desire neither of these things, are quite conscious of the ultimate object they have in view. Although there are not many of them, they have nevertheless succeeded in creating great confusion in the public mind.

GREECE.

The Provisional Government having ordered that the election of its future King of Greece should take place by universal suffrage, the polling commenced on the 14th instant, and was to last ten days. Up to the evening of Dec. 5, 2590 votes had been taken in the city, and all, without exception, were in favour of Prince Alfred. The despatches say there can be no doubt whatever that the popular vote of Greece will invite our Prince almost unanimously to ascend the throne. Demonstrations in his favour continued to take place everywhere. A telegram from Athens, dated the 10th, states that 70,000 votes had been already recorded in favour of Prince Alfred as King of Greece.

A decree has been published for the issue of 100 drachma bonds to the amount of six millions. The bonds are to be issued at par, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. The premium is to be 1 per cent, and 1 per cent is to be reserved as a sinking fund.

Prince Ypsilanti has written a long letter in French to a London contemporary on the subject of certain statements which were published regarding his supposed claims to the throne of Greece. Prince Ypsilanti vindicates the disinterestedness of the services rendered by his family to the Greek cause, and for himself declares that he is satisfied his own country will do him the justice to believe that he has free for all personal ambition. But the letter, which is dated from Vienna, does not specifically disclaim any willingness to become a candidate for the vacant throne.

A correspondent writing on Nov. 28, gives the following account of the demonstrations which had taken place in favour of Prince Alfred:—

The important events of this week are the demonstrations we have had in favour of Prince Alfred. As soon as it was seen from the newspapers, received here, both from London and France, that England was not disposed to let the Greeks have their Prince as their King, these demonstrations began to be of great importance. We have already had four or five in the capital, two on the market of the capital, and one in the suburbs. On the following day, and the last of this day, at the three o'clock demonstration, thousands of citizens, merchants, professors, landowners, students, physicians, lawyers, military, even ladies, with torches in their hands, having at their head the portrait of Prince Alfred and those of the Potentates of the three protecting Powers, marched through the town. From the windows flowers were thrown on the portraits, while shouts of "Long live Alfred, King of Greece!" were heard on all sides. The procession stopped under the windows of the British Embassy. Mr. Scarlett, ambassador, came out from the balcony in the following words:—

"Gentlemen, I am gratified by the honour you do me by this manifestation in favour of Prince Alfred and of the English nation. As far as I am concerned, the choice of Prince Alfred I must retain the same reserve that I have hitherto shown. It is a question depending on the highest consideration, and on which it is not in my power to determine. Whatever may occur, you may be assured of my deep interest which England takes in the welfare of Greece. I recommend to you calmness and moderation in your proceedings, and to wait for the meeting of your National Assembly."

In London both people and army have declared for the Prince King, saluting his nomination with 101 cannon-shots. In Nauplia, in Argos, in the Crimea, in the Peloponnesus, and Hydra, in Kyprissia, similar demonstrations have taken place.

Today we have had another episode. M. Philémon, the editor of the *Journal* newspaper noted for its Russian leaning, was preparing a demonstration in favour of the Duke of Leuchtenburg. It is asserted that he had had some twenty people from the environs, and that they were to hold a banquet with the inscription, "Orthodoxy for ever!" This, it carried out, would only lead to bloodshed, and the poor innocent country people would have had the worst of it, as everybody—people, army, and national guard—all want to have Alfred, although they are as orthodox as any. The Government, in order to prevent further complications, asked M. Philémon to leave the country. General Ciceronis, the late Prime Minister of Otto, who had fled from the first days of the revolution, came back from Constantinople to-day; he came secretly, having left the *journal* for the European press in order not to be recognized. But people saw him. It was at once suspected that he came for reactionary purposes, and the Government intimated to him the will of the people to resume his exile. You see, then, that there is some cause for apprehending intrigues; but the people in general are resolved to go straight to their object, and this is to elect Prince Alfred for their King. This feeling is unanimous and most firmly rooted all over the country.

To the Greeks, the Prince unites all the requisites they want—a political education, great connections, and a pure name. He is not orthodox; but the Greeks are no theists, and they would be satisfied with a prince that like children should be brought up in their religion, as King Leopold did with his sons. The only objection brought forward by Russia as the treaties of 1830. But Greece is by no means bound by those treaties; and the other Powers who made them were only bound as far as the election of the first king was concerned—an election which was made by them, while now it is Greece that elects. Why did not England and Russia forbid France to elect Napoleon III. for her Emperor, his election being contrary to existing treaties? Or is there one code of justice for great nations and another for small ones? This is what Greeks say, and I believe it cannot be denied that they are right. But will their right be acknowledged? Will Prince Alfred come to reign in the country which offers herself to him? These are the great questions the solution of which is anxiously expected.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Reliable information having been received that a supply of arms, the destination of which was unknown, was to be conveyed across the Principalities, the Government gave orders for their seizure. The Servian Government, however, having officially claimed the ownership of the weapons, and requested for them free passage across the Rumanian territory, the arms were immediately ordered to be restored.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY ON THE ARABIAN COAST.

A PRIVATE letter, just received, furnishes some particulars of a fearful tragedy recently enacted on the Arabian coast, not far from the entrance of the Red Sea. It appears that some time in the month of September, while the *Penguin*, Lieutenant G. G. McHardy, tender to the *Narwhal*, the ship of Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, at the Cape of Good Hope, was in the Mozambique Channel, four boats were detached from her for the purpose of watching some whales. It was the intention for the vessel to pick them up as they passed. The *Penguin* was about fifty miles south of the line. On the 25th, at 10 o'clock, a boat was seen to the north. As the vessel was blowing easily and strongly toward the north it was determined to cross the line north of them, and when the *Penguin* was about thirty miles north of the line, at a place called Brava, news of the missing boats was received. The boats had been seen there, but as they could not get on by reason of the heavy surf they had gone on before the wind to the north. The natives did not know of any landing-place in that direction within 600 miles. When the boats left the ship they had eleven days' provisions, and therefore so soon as the *Penguin* got news of them she followed in their track with all possible speed, and arrived at a place called Brava on Oct. 25. At this place the *Penguin* learnt the sad news that the whole of the crews of two of the boats, fifteen men in all, had been cruelly murdered by the natives. So far as could be learnt the boats' crews, finding themselves short of food and water on the Arabian Sea, and unable to return, banded with the intention of replenishing and then making the best of their way to Aden, on the Red Sea. They had gone in their boats, from the time they left the *Penguin* in the Mozambique Channel, over a space of 1200 miles. No doubt their intention was, but they reached Aden, and came back to the Mozambique Channel, on the 25th of the month. They landed at the Arab village named Brava, to obtain water and provisions. The natives did not at first appear hostile, but, on the contrary, invited them to come on shore. Sub-Lieutenant Fontaine, who was in charge of the party, did not deem it prudent, however, to risk all at once, although he probably nearly finished was thirsty. He therefore went in the small boat, with a crew of seven in each. The cutter was lying on the beach. As soon as the men touched the shore they were fallen upon and murdered by the natives. What became of the other two boats is not mentioned. On the arrival of the *Penguin*, and the foregoing particulars having been ascertained, the officer in charge communicated with the native chieftain, and demanded that the murderers should be given up, or, in default, prepare for the destruction by fire and sword of all the vessels, houses, and people of the place. After some delay twenty of the murderers were given up to the commander of the *Penguin*, who was told that the others had escaped, or they would also have been sent. It was soon determined to hang these men, and to deter their countrymen from doing like in similar conduct. At the date of the latest advice, which is the third week in October, the murderers were awaiting their execution, which having been finished the *Penguin* would have that part of the coast. The *Penguin* had recovered some of the carbines of the murdered men, but had not discovered any of the rifles.

IT IS CALCULATED THAT THE METROPOLIS ALONE SWALLOWED, in the course of a year, no fewer than 27,000 sheep, 40,000 calves, 10,000 pigs, and 30,000 pigs, to say nothing of the flocks of geese and ducks which find their way into the same cauldrons of consumption. The total value of the fresh annually imported into London, after a deduction, cannot be much less than £1,000,000 annually. For the whole country we slaughter every year 2,000,000 head of horned cattle and about five times as many head of sheep.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE OPERATIONS IN VIRGINIA.

THE MISSISSIPPI EXPEDITION.

NORTH CAROLINA.

IRELAND.

SCOTLAND

THE PROVINCES.

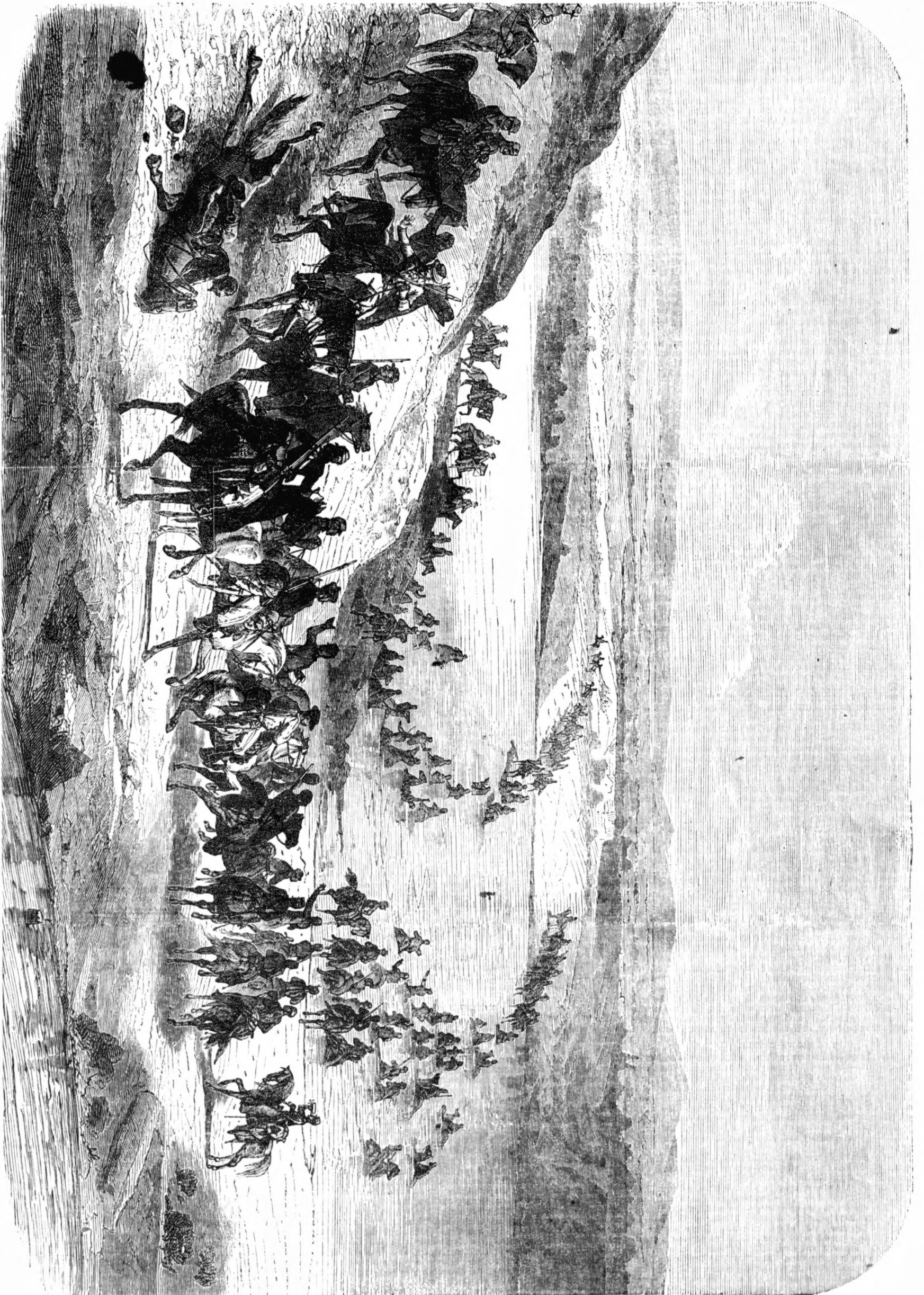
THE RETURN OF THE QUEEN OF SPAIN TO MADRID.

THE SACKVILLE-STREET CLUB, one of the principal Conservative clubs in Dublin, if not the principal, at the fullest meeting of members ever had, have elected Sir Robert Peel unanimously. There was not a single dissenter. This is an honour which no Liberal Chief Secretary ever received before in Ireland.

THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT advertises for 2000 headboards for graves. They are to be of black walnut or oak, of knots, fitting and 18 in. wide. D. W. Keble, of Philadelphia, writes to friends, artists and librarians, 50 cents for each time enlarged copy of the list sent out, or \$2.40, if purchased before the 1st of April.



RETURN OF THE QUEEN OF SPAIN TO MADRID FROM HER JOURNEY THROUGH ANDALUSIA.



THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.—CONFEDERATE CAVALRY UNDER GENERAL STUART RE-CROSSING THE POTOMAC AFTER A RAID TO CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

THE CLUB.

During the fifty or sixty years that the Smithfield Club has been in existence it has often found itself compelled, from the pressure of circumstances, to seek a temporary abode in the great metropolitan desert, and when it had obtained a "local habitation," to resort to many a makeshift contrivance, with the view of effecting something like a permanent settlement. "Wootton's livery stables, the Dolphin-yard," Smithfield, were the scene of the first show. Then Swan-yard; Dixon's Repository; Barbican; and Sadler's-yard, Goswell-street, were successively the favoured regions. But as the stimulus imparted to competition amongst the breeders of cattle spread, the consequently increasing number of visitors, and the interest excited in the public mind, rapidly developed with the lapse of time, these places, each in its turn, had to be abandoned for a more convenient locality. The club, however, stuck with a deep-rooted affection as long as it could to the congenial neighbourhood of Smithfield, as if the genius loci might receive offence should they dare to quit its charming precincts; and it was not without serious misgiving and trembling anxiety that in 1839 the bold step was taken of removing out of the City altogether and pitching the pens in the far distant West, in juxtaposition with, if not under the same roof as, Alder's workhouse. The annual exhibitions of fat stock from this time forward acquired a renown they had never enjoyed before. Popular favour was lavished upon them to such an extent that constant additions had to be made to the area of the showyard, equally for the sake of the cattle and the public; and the club's meetings in London came to be regarded as one of the two great events of the year in the agricultural community. Still the cry for room, and yet more room, was heard on all sides. Light and air were not yet less energetically demanded. The owner of the bazaar could not go on for ever pulling down a wall here and another there, adding half a score feet in this direction and half a score in that. It had expanded and expanded until it could do no farther without spontaneous combustion. After a second day it was a veritable "chamber of horrors." People wondered that they could pass through its crowded and confined mazes and escape suffocation or being crushed to death; and as to the unfortunate cattle, panting on the verge of apoplexy, we shall never know what they felt. Their sufferings were, however, such that the occasions were not rare when the butcher's knife did its merciful work of terminating their career, and the vacant pen was left to tell the sad story.

THE NEW HALL.

Four years ago the Smithfield Club, prompted by Mr. Giblett, the well-known cattle-dealer, and Mr. Fisher Hobbs, one of the leading spirits in our agricultural institutions, and other gentlemen, began to seek an adequately commodious exhibition hall, and, desirable quarters in the West-end not being procured, the club leased their annual show to a company that has built the present new hall in the more business quarter of Islington. Not that the great spectacle has been farmed out for a long term of years to speculators possessing only a pecuniary interest in the club's welfare; on the contrary, a large proportion of the shareholders in the Agricultural Hall are likewise members of the club. The late Mr. Jonas Webb was the chairman of the company, and our leading implement-makers are united with some of our principal agriculturists in its directorship.

The hall may be approached from Islington-green, near the new fountain and statue of Sir Hugh Myddelton; but the principal entrance is in Liverpool-road. Here bucolic taste has not confronted us with a dead wall or a featureless gable-end, after the manner of barns and byres; but, with the assistance of Mr. Frederick Peck, the architect, has erected a really fine façade in the Italian style, with a central arch, right and left side-entrances, and twin towers of lofty and elegant form, beautified with buff, red, and white bricks and stone friezes and enrichments. Arranged along this front are the pay-boxes, free-ticket entry, catalogue-stand, bookstall, parcel and cloak room, and telegraph, inquiry, and police offices; so that, without passing through any antechamber, you at once enter the main hall at its western end. This noble apartment, 381 ft. in length by 217 ft. in breadth, is surrounded by deep galleries, the spaces below these being lighted by windows in the external walls, while the central area is illumined from the skylight roof—an arch of trussed iron framework of 144 ft. span, resting upon fifty-six iron columns, 33 ft. in height, the crown of this roof being 70 ft. from the floor. In the evening an artificial day is created by some 5000 flames of gas. The ventilation is effected by means of two longitudinal chambers, each 6 ft. in breadth, perforated underneath, supported by the iron columns, and communicating with the towers, which are designed to maintain a draught on the principle of tall chimneys. At the eastern end of the building, where is the entrance from Islington-green, is a minor hall 100 ft. square; and, to give some idea of the magnitude of the whole, it is said that the roof comprises two acres of slates and one acre of glass, while the space afforded by the galleries alone (to which there are five staircases) considerably exceeds an acre. On the north side of the main hall we find the offices of the club, the hall-keeper's residence, lavatories, storerooms, rooms of the clerk of the hall company, and a first-class refreshment-room. In decoration the interior of the Agricultural Hall is sufficiently pleasing, without any admixture of the glaring and gaudy. Perhaps the too-prevalent tints of brown and amber would have a prettier effect if lined and picked out with a few more warm touches of positive rainbow colouring.

INTERIOR ARRANGEMENTS.

The arrangement of the different kinds of live stock and of the implements is discovered at a glance. Light implements, stalls, &c., occupy the galleries; heavy machinery is placed underneath, close to the walls; the sheep-pens (of wrought-iron tubing) stand next, down both sides of the hall; and the cattle occupy the central portion of the ground floor, in four ranks, the beasts being all separately haltered to four lines of iron fence. Each animal has a space of 6 ft. in breadth in which to stretch his limbs or lie down, and the public can walk in front of the handsome heads and horns, as well as behind the long rows of tails and heels, the central avenue forming quite a spacious promenade. The ewe hold an odoriferous levée by themselves, in their 100 ft. square drawing-room, at the eastern end of the main hall.

THE SHOW.—CATTLE.

The club has harnessed its new residence with an additional £600 in the prize-sheet—the money prizes, silver medals, and handsome silver cups, are now substituted for the gold medals, amounting to the total value of £2066; and the entries of animals are 418, against 349 last year, the sheep in particular having been furnished with several new or expanded classes. After the judges had made their award there was a private view on Saturday last, and on Monday the show was thrown open to the general public, at a charge of five shillings. On Tuesday and subsequent days the admission-fee was one shilling.

The Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and the Prince of Hesse visited the hall on Saturday, and were soon after followed by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary.

The 180 cattle, as a whole, may be characterised as equalling, though certainly not surpassing, the standard excellence of former occasions. But visitors should be aware at the outset of the illusion produced by the mere spaciousness and loftiness of the hall in diminishing the apparent size of the animals. There is a larger proportion of simply good butcher's beef, and there are fewer specimens of rare development and early maturity than from a year of progress might have been expected. Breeding has become a refined art, and feeding is conducted with wonderful judgment and skill; but while, in combination, they are improving the entire herds of Great Britain and pushing particular races into pre-eminence, the fact still remains that we are beholden to voluntary feats of nature for those individual animals which now and then astonish us with their perfections. The present year has given us no steer or ox of superlative merit; while Mr. Eastwood's Rosette (out of Mr. Wetherell's herd), good as she is, forms a poor substitute for that exquisitely beautiful milk-white steer of Colonel Townsley, which delighted us last year as Beauty's Butterfly. This year is the triumph of the cross-breeds.

The £20 silver cup for the best steer or ox in the hall is carried off, not by a short-horn or Hereford, as usual, but by the produce of a Devon bull and shorthorn cow, bred and fed by Mr. John Overman, of Barham Market, in Norfolk. And the "covey-master" of the judges was that of Mr. Stewart's ossified short-horn and polled Scot, which won the highest honour at Birmingham. In appearance, Mr. Overman's steer is like a ruddy Devon of very great size and substance, but without the defective hindquarters of that breed. The girth is 9 ft. or 9 in. less than that of Mr. Stewart's heavier-bodied crossbred; but in several points, as the round and neck-vein, in general beauty, and in touch, the winner of the cup is clearly superior; and then Mr. Stewart's great but plain ox, now, apparently, suffering from long journeys, and in touch since the Birmingham Show, is one year and four months older. Bearing in mind that the judges are instructed "to keep strictly in view the object of supplying the markets with the cheapest and best meat," we are disposed to acquiesce in their decision, especially as the places of distinction here awarded to two first-class animals are the truest compliment to the value and perfection of the parent breeds.

The £10 silver cup, for the best heifer or cow in the hall, is given, not to Mr. Eastwood's cow Rosette, but to a heifer of Mr. Tennant, of Leeds (thus reversing the Birmingham judgment). Her sire was the Sixth Duke of Oxford, but first-rate blood has not conferred upon her any special beauty; her head is not very handsome, she is not good before the shoulder, and, though girthing 8 ft. 11 in. (one inch more than the cow), hardly shows evidence in her own person why she should have borne off the piece of plate.

Glancing now at the shorthorns in general, we find a rather ordinary collection of steers and oxen. Mr. Frost's roan steer is level, of good frame, but has a girth of only 7 ft. 8 in.; it is fair Christmas beef, a little loose in hand, but not a splendid show animal such as some former years have brought us. And the Duke of Beaufort's steer, which is here first in the class because the Birmingham first has not come, is by no means first rate, defective in the flank, and girthing 8 ft. 5 in. Earl Howe's prize ox, second at Birmingham, is first in his class here, as Mr. Sanderton's ox could not be admitted to double the conquest of last year, when it ought properly to have been slaughtered not and eaten long ago. Neither Mr. Worley's roan, Earl Spencer's big Strawberry, Mr. Stratton's ox, Mr. Walter's heavy beast, nor Mr. Harrod's "commended" animal retrieve the want of quality in this large class. The heifers are certainly much better; in fact, they make a very fine class, and the cows are little less meritorious.

The Herefords are unusually good; Major-General Hood wins with a steer from the Royal Farm, Windsor Park. In the still better class of older animals Mr. Aldworth, of Abingdon, takes first prize with a big heavy ox that many people will consider out of place. Mr. Hecker's ox, of the same age, and six inches greater girth, is the true type of a Hereford, very wide and deep in frame, with better rounds of beef, but has gone off in condition since the Birmingham show. Mr. Shaw's steer of superb quality comes in for the second prize. The Hereford heifers and cows make two classes of rare merit; Mr. Turner's cow especially having splendid flesh and a beautiful curly coat.

Of the Devons there is an average show, the older steers or oxen exhibiting considerable size with their wonderful quality of flesh; and the cow class comprises some prime specimens of this beautiful breed.

We find a large show of the useful red Sussex cattle; only a couple of the dairy polled breed of Norfolk, and three of the long-horns, Mr. Burberry's cow being fat, and showing more beauty and quality than are generally present in the classes of this antique breed. The Duke of Beaufort's yellow West Highland is a very superior animal; and in the capital classes of polled Scots Mr. McCombie's black ox and Mr. Stewart's brindled ox very properly change their Birmingham places in favour of the former.

SHEEP.

We can say but a word or two on the very numerous and well-filled sheep classes. It can hardly be in accordance with the club's desire of distinguishing the cheapest and best meat that the £20 silver cup for the best longwools has gone to Mr. Poljamb's splendid little Leicesters, instead of to Mr. Mills's Cotswolds, of about the same age, but half as heavy again, with as prime mutton. Among the grand pens of Southdowns Lord Walsingham and the Duke of Richmond are here only second to Mr. Rigden, who takes also the £20 silver cup for the best shortwool sheep. If the perfect symmetry and exquisite finish of the Southdowns are astonishing, so also are the great size and weight attained by the Hampshire Downs, by the Shropshire and noble Oxfordshire sheep. Of the latter breed Mr. Charles Howard, of Bedford, is the champion, and his sheep are certainly most extraordinary for frame, weight, quality, and wool. But in this class, in the Hampshire and Wiltshire Down class, and in the cross-bred class, we observed prizes and commendations awarded to animals that still show by the light colour on their backs where the shears have shaped the fleece into deceptive symmetry. Some sheep are clipped so flat and broad that, when lying down, their smooth level backs display almost the perfect curve of a plough mouldboard. If the mountain sheep are interesting, with their horns and picturesque appearance, the grand class of cross-breeds is interesting from the great value of the sheep in wool and mutton. Consumers of meat and wearers of woollen can desire no better animals than the Sussex and Cotswold wethers of Mr. Stilgoe, of Banbury, which win the £20 silver cup, as the best in the "other" classes.

PIGS.

The pigs make an average show. Mr. Lynn's white pigs under four months old are marvels of early maturity; Mr. Cattle's "Lincolnshires" are exceedingly fine; and Mr. Baker's black "Hampshires," 16 months old, winning the gold medal as the best pigs, are uncommonly well formed and splendidly fed. Mr. Crisp's black sow in the Extra Stock Class is also an amazingly good specimen of Suffolk pork.

IMPLEMENTS.

There is a great display of agricultural implements of all kinds, and by makers from all quarters. All the leading firms are there—Tuxfords, with steam-engines; Clayton and Shuttleworth, with thrashing-machines and straw-carriers; Howards, with a fine show of ploughs and their new haymakers; Ransome and Sims, with barn and field implements and their new self-raking reaping-machine, which has proved a great success during the last harvest; Hornsby, with ploughs and novel washing-machines; Garretts, with thrashing-machines, drills, and horsehoes; B-nall, with scarifiers and root-pulpers; Coleman, with cultivators; Turners, with roller mills; Richmond and Chandler, with chaff-cutters; Boby, with cornscreens; Aveling, with a locomotive for common roads; Ashby, with handy small steam-engines and hay-makers; the trustees of Crosskill, with carts and waggons; Samuelson, with root-lifters and new self-raking reaper; Burgess and Key, with grass-mowing and self-delivery reaping-machines; Cranston, with Wood's reaper; Pickley and Sims, with Bamlett's reaper; M. Cornick, with his new self-raking reaper; Cuthberts, with their own manual-delivery reaper; and so on, through a list that might fill half a column. Steam culture, the great fact of the day, is represented by something more telling and important than mere models and sketches of apparatus; the machines themselves are exhibited, and the several inventors are furnished with the irresistibly-persuasive argument of testimonials by the hundred detailing the practical experience or hearty approval of customers. One maker offers to do most and best work for the money; another can deal more readily with small angular inclosures; a third grabs up a seedbed and plants the seed in a single operation; and the very extensive evidence in favour of the various machines, alike on the church "clays" and on the more easy-tempered "medium or light soils," completely establishes every essential point in the question of steam-power ploughing. The saving of one-third the farmer's outlay on a large occupation repays the prime cost of a steam plough in a few years, while two small farmers can join in the purchase of an apparatus too costly for one. The notabilities of the show, however, are

not solely among machinery of massive character; one great curiosity is the cow-milking machine, an American "novelty" for obviating the immense loss suffered by farmers the whole world over from spoiled milk in the hands of careless or fraudulent milk maids and men. This said that a fortune is being realised by the invention, and so simple is the movement producing the requisite suction and squeezing that, when slightly altered in detail to suit the varying dimensions of bovine udders, this milkpail with pump-handle will probably supersede the one now filled by the ruddy palms of the milkmaid. Another Yankee labour-saver is an up-and-down saw (shown by Childs, of Oxford-street), worked from a rotary motion by means of a cross-shaped slide, which enables the instrument to operate at any angle, as in sawing through or ripping up logs, and secures many other advantages with the least possible number of working parts and the utmost simplicity and efficiency.

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES.

The display in the galleries is not confined to mechanics; vegetables receive one place and attention; and the magnificent and tastefully-arranged collection of roots and cereal specimens, grains, seeds, &c., of Thomas Gibbs and Co., of Piccadilly (the Royal Agricultural Society's seed-men); the stall of fine roots of Sutton, of Reading; that of George Gibbs and Co., and some others—including a stand of Hallett's pedigree wheat—are worthy of careful study as demonstrating the progress of agricultural botany contemporaneously with the breeding and nurture of animals. Stalls of artificial manures for all crops and soils are also present. And for forcing the animals to all forced provender the world-renowned Thorley, of Newgate-street, offers a magnificent feed; while Sharps, of Birmingham, Henri of Hull, and other grinders and mixers of good things, provide also condensed nutriment for every kind of stock.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

EAST KENT.—Mr. P. Wyke and Martin, the father of the member for Rochester, is spoken of as the candidate in the Liberal interest for the eastern division of the county of Kent, in view of the death of Mr. Deedes. The Conservatives are already at work to secure the return of Mr. Norton Knatchbull. The name of Mr. Leonard Hope, who has estate in the county, has also been mentioned.

ANDOVER.—Mr. Lord Mayor of Andover has recently completed his canvass, and received no nomination for the next year in this borough. All idea of an opposition is now abandoned.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The official declaration of the poll was made on Sunday at the Guildhall, when Mr. Albert Brinton announced the number of votes polled for each candidate to be as follows:—For Lord Mayor Rose, 1743; for Captain Mangles, 1647; majority for the Lord Mayor, 68.

TOYNES.—The nomination for this borough took place on Monday, when the show of hands was declared to be in favour of Mr. Dent, the Conservative candidate. A poll was, however, demanded on the part of Mr. Peck, and fixed to take place on Tuesday; but in the morning of that day it was intimated that Mr. Dent did not intend going to the poll, and Mr. Peck was accordingly elected.

DROGHEDA.—The retirement of Mr. McCann, M.P. for Drogheda, is stated, may be regarded as certain. His declining health, and the respect in (in which he was considerably involved) of the well-known firm of Messrs. Brothers, are the immediate causes of his intended resignation. The names of several candidates are freely mentioned among the electors. First on the list is that of the Attorney-General, who, when the present member vacated expressed an intention of retiring, made advances to the constituency. Next comes the Solicitor-General. "This gentleman," says a letter from Drogheda, "might be expected to secure the vote of the Liberal-Conservatives." It is also said that he would be backed up by an influential Conservative family.

CRYSTAL PALACE POULTRY SHOW.—The private view of the poultry show at the Crystal Palace took place on Monday. It is by far the largest and best exhibition of the kind that has ever before taken place. All the old classes are well represented, and in addition to this there are some new French birds, which present many features of interest to the poultry fancier. The admirers of pigeons and rabbits will also find much to amuse them. The total number of pairs exhibited is 1312.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.—From Farringdon-street to Paddington the whole line is now reported to be absolutely perfected, and ready in every branch, even down to the liveries of the guards and porters. The usual notice has been given to the Board of Trade to inspect the mechanism of the signals, and when these have been examined the line, it is stated, will open, and with as much completeness of detail as if it had been two months in working order. We have heard that one important cause of the delay in opening has arisen from the fact that the carriages intended to be used on the line were all constructed so much too wide as not to allow of the doors being opened, except at stations, and at the same time to occasion considerable danger from the close proximity which trains passing each other would be in. The company proposed to protect the passengers by putting bars across the windows; but this was objected to by the Government Inspector as insufficient. Such, at least, is a report current. We suppose the difficulty has been got over in a satisfactory manner, or will be before the line is allowed to be used for traffic.

A CURIOUS DOCUMENT.—A remarkable article, says the *Illustrated*, appeared at the side of the late Baron Taylor's obituary, which has just been deposited under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. It was this description:—"Elizabeth (Queen). A Declaration of the sentence and Deposition of Elizabeth, the usurper and pretended Queen of England, broadside, exclusively rare (1588). This scurrilous broadside, emanating from the name of Sirus V., was intended to have been posted on the walls throughout England if the Armada had been successful, and must have been a most offensive libel to the Queen, as it describes her as 'an heretic,' 'a pest, conceived and borne by incestuous whoredoms,' 'an unjust murderer,' 'a perjured,' 'a murderer,' and with other similar epithets. On the failure of this expedition this broadside was so studiously suppressed and destroyed that its very existence has been doubted and denied. It is supposed to have been printed at Antwerp, and, although attributed to Cardinal Allen, is considered to have been really penned by Father Robert Persons."

RICHARD LENOIR.—This personage, who has just obtained the posthumous honour of giving his name to one of the great thoroughfares of Paris, was a celebrated manufacturer, born in 1766, of a peasant family at Lenoir (Calvados). He left his native village at the age of seventeen to seek his fortune, and came to Paris, where, after commencing as a simple porter, he engaged in business as a dealer in cotton goods, and in the course of time became one of the richest merchants of the period. Wishing to free trade in his own country from its dependence upon England, he created in France, for the first time, factories for spinning and weaving cotton. As a manufacturer he was very successful, and received great encouragement from Napoleon I., who decorated him with his own hand. The suppression of the import duties in 1814, however, brought on his ruin, and he passed his latter days in straitened circumstances. The real name of this remarkable man was Francis Richard, but, having taken a partner named Lenoir, the two names became indissolubly associated, and are applied only to Richard. He died in 1839.

A MAD AMBASSADOR.—Great excitement was lately caused in Rome by an event which took place, on the evening of the 25th ult., at the Caffarelli Palace, the residence of the Prussian Minister, where the Prince and Princess of Prussia had invited several persons to dinner. The Minister in question, Baron de Camnitz, who had not appeared during the repast, suddenly presented himself, attired in a singular costume, and with many gesticulations cried out that he would not have his house any longer turned into an inn, and ordered the Prince and his guests to leave. This was said in such a manner as to shock the ears of the ladies. The Princess Royal was seized with fits of trembling, and while every one was stupefied with astonishment the Prince approached the Minister in an affectionate manner, and implored him to leave. This M. de Camnitz at last did. M. de Camnitz was then and still is stark mad. He was conveyed to the residence of his brother-in-law, Prince D. Michel Caetani. In an interval of reason M. de Camnitz expressed the desire of seeing Cardinal Antonelli; his Eminence, not being able to go himself, sent Monsignor Deradi, but there was no hope of saving him. It is said that a sermon, preached by a minister of the Evangelical sect in the chapel of the Prussian Embassy on All Souls' Day was the determining occasion of an event the origin of which must be sought further back, and it is believed may be found in the fact that M. de Camnitz had fought a duel a long time ago, in which he killed his adversary.

A SENSIBLE SURGEON.—A deputation from the workmen of Paris having waited on surgeon Nédonat and proposed to vote him as a deputy, he is said to have returned the following answer:—"Gentlemen, I feel much gratified at the step you have taken, but I must confess that it astonishes me as much as it does me honour. I do not well see how my knowledge of surgery can have made you imagine that I am qualified for the mission which you wish to invest me, or how I should have suddenly become a political economist, a financier, and a legislator, because I have discovered the principle of a ball in the foot of a wounded man. If the object in view were to appoint me surgeon to the Chamber, that would be a different affair, for the business of a surgeon is a duty which I have never neglected, and for which, I repeat, I have no excuse. I am even convinced that the affairs of the country would not go on as better, and that my patients, being neglected, would fare the worse. I must, therefore, while thanking you for what you have done, declare that you propose to me an honour which it is impossible for me to accept."

Literature.

The Works of Thomas Hood, Comic and Serious, in Prose and Verse. Edited, with Notes, by his Son. Vols. 3, 4, and 5.
London: Moxon and Co.

There is little that is really new to be said about the three volumes of this very attractive republication now before us, though there is, no doubt, plenty that might be spun out into long paragraphs, and happily fresh to hasty readers. The liability of such humour—as in that Hoard's is always of that class—as turns upon nice shades in the meaning of words, to miss its due appreciation with readers a few generations forward is a hackneyed topic; and, in Hoard's case, it must be added that he crowds pan upon pan with such affluent ease and apparent unconsciousness that the most attentive modern is not always up with him. A good rule for getting at all he intends is to read exactly what you find. We will give an example of what we mean. In the "Ode to Rae Wilson, Esq." occurs the following passage:—

I own I shake my sides at ranters,
And treat sham-Abram saints with wicked banter;
I even own that there are times -but, then,
It's when I've got my wine-I say, "d--canters!"

We confess to having read this years ago without catching the play upon the word "decanter." The reason was, that, instead of reading properly as it stands, pronouncing the abbreviated word as abbreviated, we read it, *sotto voce*, in its complete shape.

It is an "Ode to Rae Wilson" will serve as a text from which to start remarking (what has, perhaps, not been remarked before) that Hood had the usual defect of humorists who have met with large acceptance from the masses—a total incapacity of understanding the so-called "religious" people. It is a defect which belongs to the poets, and men like Fielding, Dickens, and Thackeray may be quoted as illustrations of it; but Hood was, it must be said, a very good example, and no less striking that he had an extraordinary share of the qualities that usually accompany the best form of the "religious" character. It is not that we, for one, complain of the mere strength of language contained in this "Ode," or any of Hood's anti-bible poems; *that*, it is quite probable, the "preachers" of whom his son speaks fully deserved. But it is a mistake to suppose that the class of persons called "zealots" or "bigots" are more "bilious" than other people, or that they set their faces against funny men out of "spiritual pilla." They do not, of conscience, and out of intellectual narrowness, which all the more is abjection in the world won't mend. It is not to be wondered at that a person nurtured in an extreme creed should think some obj.ctionable. The real wonder is he does not extend his view, and think some other things still more objectionable. It would be easy enough to show the incongruity of his whole scheme of things, but that is not what the humorist does in reply to his attacks. He says to a man who is moved by a conscience (however absurd a conscience), "Sir, you are a proud, bilious, strutting, spiteful canter; and when I take a Sunday walk, I'm as pious as you are." Both clauses of this answer are wide of the mark; and it might even be held desirable, in the interests of truth and good understanding, that such things as the "Ode to Rae Wilson" and the "Sketches of Chabanel and Strogilus" had never been produced. However—to apply what Leigh Hunt once said of Shakespeare—it is almost impossible, once having anything of Hood's, to wish it away again; and certainly the "Ode" in question is, granting the standpoint, a poem one would be sorry to part with.

On the general principle which we have just quoted, the world owes a great deal to Mr. Hood, the son, for collecting and assuring to it the possession of so many good things that might otherwise have slipped through its forgetful fingers.

Dropped Life in Egypt. By M. L. WHATLEY, Member of the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East. With Illustrations. Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday.

that Egypt is on the high road to our Indian and Australian colonies, and that it is one of the "lands of the Bible,"—in these two facts lies the secret of great part of the attention it has received, and the comparative facility with which European ideas are wedging themselves by rapid degrees into the country of the Pharaohs. Miss Whately's title, taken in connection with the name of the publishing-house from which the book is issued, speaks for itself; so that no one need take up her little volume without knowing what to expect. Its faults (not necessary to be made much of) are the faults of the school to which the lady belongs. There is the usual feebleness of manner, with the usual tendency to drag in bits of Scripture on irrelevant occasions. For example, the authoress does not think it sufficient to describe (and pretty, it must be owned) the flight of a dove up into the bright sky without instituting a comparison the very remotest that was thinkable—"Thus a believer, who leaves behind him," and so forth, in that peculiar vein of bad taste and bad writing which one has learnt to look for in books dating from Messrs. Seeley and Co.

However, Miss Whately has produced an amusing little volume; and, as we are going to be indebted to her for some of her facts, it is hardly fair to go far beyond telling her that she has not made the most of them in a literary point of view, or looked at them with the eye of a philosopher. There is something very odd, to people who have learned to think a little, in the cool manner in which the lady takes it for granted, for example, that the European notions of civility which she brought with her are fit to be transplanted into Egypt. She criticises a languid carpenter (who put her to inconvenience by his slowness) without having, apparently, the least notion that the activity which is a virtue in England might be a blunder and a vice in Egypt. And when at nightfall, on a Nile boat, the natives have been amusing themselves with songs and dances, she says gravely:—"It seemed a sad pity that these poor fellows should have nothing better than such childish diversion ere they went to rest." And this, too, after a candid admission that she had been herself "amused" by the manner in which the boatmen "bequiled the idle hours." One of the boatmen, we are told, played on a roudan, while another sang a plaintive ballad beginning "I have received a wound in my heart which is incurable." Then the others sang, in responsive chorus, "Oh, my night, my night!" After this came a comic song, with some "raude punimeine," the burden being the history of somebody's red shawl, which, being lost, a new one has to be bought; and so forth, with "gesticulations all round the circle." Well, really now, that doesn't seem so very bad, to our mind! It is uncommonly like an evening's amusement in England; and the incurable wound in the heart, and the story about a shawl and the troubles it brought with it, are very fair specimens of the graver and the lighter interests of life all over the world. Still, we have nothing but respectful praise for the labour of love with which Miss Whately and her friends ended the evening on board the boat—a labour consisting of New Testament reading, including the parable of the Prodigal Son.

The short and the long of the book is, that Miss Whately and her companions get up, with infinite labour and self-denial, schools for girls in Cairo. Some of the quaintest effects in the narrative occur in the cases in which Occidental and Oriental notions of marriage come into collision. We have, for instance, a little girl, named Salnah, who is a pupil in Miss Whately's school, but who is married against her will when only eleven years old. And here is her story:—

SALHAH IS MARRIED, AND DIVORCES HERSELF.

One day she took a "huff," as children say, and stopped from school for a week. Her mother, another girl had torn the arms off a doll which, after this was found, had been manufactured out of a piece of rag! It was after this that we learned that Sarah was going to be married! It was a very odd thing, and a horrible mockery of the marriage, when this little creature, a utter child, whose was so young, showed signs of being a woman. Her dress was eleven years old, but neither in looks nor manners was it at all like that girls of that age among child, children of the poor with us. It was found that the mother selfishly wished to get rid of the burden of her support, and that the mother of a lad about fifteen, who lived near, wished (with equal selfishness) to get a drudge, who should carry water and perform menial offices for her household. Neither Sarah nor the boy were consulted, apparently, but the two mothers arranged everything, and made a feast to celebrate the betrothal. This was at the house of the bridegroom's family, the stove being certainly incapable of affording a guest-

clambered over the highest deck chair. "The boat did not sink," said a loud, grating voice, "or any such thing, but the water cooled some of us." We were told, when I read the *Illustrated* this was merely a pretence. Some were not so concerned to hide their, which were all, he admitted of the tongue. However, her influence must be for a present, with which he had been provided for the occasion, as was customary. As they were poor, but only consisted of two pictures (Globe, *Paradise*). "What did you buy with the money?" I asked. "She bought more sweetmeats, and then her mother beat her when she found she had none," was the reply. Poor child! how we longed, on hearing this fresh proof of her youthful distress, to have her again at her alphabet and needle. Happily she did not stay too very shortly, for the match was utterly broken off by her own preference: she had more spirit than a Madon girl often takes to show, and persisted in saying "fish on" (Not want) till the parents gave way—perhaps aided by the indifference of the boy-bird grown and the faculty with which her place could be supplied, as little ragged girls were not scarce in that quarter.

Another matron, aged fifteen, named Shih, used to get banged by her husband for coming to learn a little. Miss Wlatley assures us that "an Egyptian girl of twelve or fourteen, though forward enough in making bargains, and up to all the gossip of her quarter, is more unfit to take care of little children than an ordinary specimen of an English village girl at eight years old." This, however, we take with some reservation. A girl who is a mother, even at fourteen, must, in respect to the guidance afforded by maternal sympathies and instincts, have the advantage over a girl of eight who is *not* a mother, however well instructed.

Mrs. Whately remarks—she says she “must own”—that there is, “in dealing with ragged life in Egypt, one great compensation for the filthy habits of the people, the ignorance, the superstition, and the degradation.” This compensation is that there is “no drunkenness to contend” against; “no fear of a drunken hush and stumbling by, or finding the mother gone to the gin-shop.” Very good. What did Miss Whately expect? *Of course* there are compensations everywhere; and though she says “this is the *one* blessing (she italics her) amid many and great evils,” we have not the least doubt that a more catholic and more instructed eye than hers would discover a good many more “one” blessings amid the “evils.”

We shall reproduce another anecdote, entire, for the sake of making a comment or two. One day Miss Whately hears, from her window, a row in the streets, and discovers it is

POOR SHOE IN TROUBLE

A young woman was struggling in the midst of a crowd, and two other women were beating her furiously and tearing her clothes, while she shrieked and sobbed. In return, and the crowd, who were chiefly women and children, did not seem to try and rescue her. When I saw that poor soul was the victim, one of the women dragged her along the ground by a long hair (her hair having been torn off), and struck her when she attempted to rise. I saw Un Usé descend to try and separate them, but as he could reach them such had been still further aggravated; a boy, incited by one of the women, rushed on her and bit her arm and shoulder cruelly; she then rolled on the ground, like a wild animal, refusing to rise even when the matron came up and tried to help her; presently she started up by a sudden effort, and began raving, and I fear swearing, at her tormentors, who seemed meditating a fresh attack.

Uncle Guo looked up to the window and said, "What shall I do, she will not come with me?" I ran down myself, hoping she might yield to me; the crowd, which had been augmented by several men, did not attempt to make way for me, but when I gently pushed one or two of the women, they looked round and then drew back a little, so that I could force a passage through to the sobbing Shoh; I caught her arm, and said, "Come, my poor child; come with me!" She followed without a word, nor did the women oppose her departure; they were no others than her own mother and aunt, who had just been provoked with her for declining to lend the aunt a new jacket she had bought for herself.

I hid the poor victim up stairs into the matron's room; she was a deplorable figure, with her discoloured hair and torn and dusty dress, and face flushing crimson through its dark skin, and all stained with tears and dirt. She stripped up her sleeve, and I saw the arm actually bleeding and bearing the marks of the boy's teeth—her own cousin he probably was, for the aunt was the one who had set him on to this cowardly and savage action to revenge her supposed wrong! I bound up the wound with a bandage steeped in ammonia and water, which healed it entirely in a couple of days by being renewed occasionally. But the bitter feelings excited by such a scene were not likely to be soon cured. She was left to lie down, after a composing draught, on the matron's bed for an hour's rest, after which she went quietly home. Does not such a scene show the crying necessity for female education in the East?

"Does not such a scene show the crying necessity for female education in the East?" No doubt it does. It also shows the necessity for Policeman X. It also reminds one of "rogs" the like of which are to be seen every day and hour in England, translated into a little higher terms. Poor Shon is beaten and ill-treated because she won't do what somebody else wants her to do, though the refusal is a mere refusal, and violates no rights of anybody's. Such is life—almost everywhere! Crying want of female education in the East? Yes, madam, and a crying want of gratuitous circulation of Mr. Mill's "Liberty" in England, especially among the classes in which your own little volume will find most acceptance. Oh, which of us has not been set upon by somebody because he wouldn't lend a jacket of his own making?

The very worst part of Miss Whately's book consists of the wood cuts, which are of the Rosa Matilda school. The best part is its unimaginative fidelity in trifle. One is glad to read an authoress who just tells you that the first sound you hear in the morning in Grand Cairo is the cry of ' Milk below!' and leaves you to make up your own reflection, to the effect that that's exactly like what happens in your own street.

GARIBOLDI AND THE "SAMNITES."—According to a Naples correspondent, an association of working men of the province of Molise, or of Samnium, as they are taught by ancient history to call it, have lately sent an address of sympathy to Garibaldi, expressed in language of passionate devotion to the work he has in hand. The concluding sentence of their address is a singular evidence of the tenacity with which these modern Samnites cling to the ancient traditions of their race. "All the Samnites," they write "at your greeting, and promise you that as their ancestors humbled (it, made to pass under the Forks) the Roman power, so at your summons on the field of battle they will humble the eagles and birds of prey, whether yellow or black, enemies or allies." To this characteristic address Garibaldi sent from Pisa the following reply:—"My dear Brothers,—I thank you for the many and noble words in which you have addressed me. It was a great consolation to me to know that, tormented as you are by the brigands whom the Court of Rome sends out amongst you, and ill protected by a weak Government unworthy of itself, and more submissive to the foreigner than devoted to the country, you still have faith in the salvation of Italy. There are great virtues in the working men of Italy, and associations like yours tend to develop them. We shall soon see our oppressors pass under the Capricorn Forts before the free people of Italy. I heartily salute you."

SIBERIAN EXPEDITION.—A letter from Archangel gives an account of the expedition which was organized, with the co-operation of the Russian Government, by Captain Krusenstern, of the Imperial Navy, for the purpose of exploring the icy Sea and the coast of Siberia as far as the mouth of Yenisey. According to the plan decided on, the schooner Yermak, commanded by Captain Krusenstern, left on the 1st of August the town of Koukski, on the river of that name, accompanied by a small yacht with four men on board, under the orders of sub-officer Korotki. The yacht returned some time after alone to Koukski, and gave the following account:—The two vessels safely crossed the Strait of Yongsorik-Schar, and entered what is called the Red Sea. They had always kept within sight of each other up to that time; but on Sept. 10 the schooner became surrounded by such compact masses of ice that the yacht was obliged to keep at about a mile distance. The fog afterwards became so thick as to completely prevent the position of the Yermak from being seen. Three days after the weather cleared up, but nothing could be seen of her, and Korotki considered it prudent to return and wait in the Strait of Yongsorik-Schar for the return of the schooner. The yacht remained there for a fortnight, but nothing was seen of her, nor could any intelligence be obtained from the inhabitants on the coast. Since that time no intelligence has been received of the Yermak.

AUGMENTATION OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE FORCE.—In consequence of the numerous garrotte robberies and burglaries which of late have occurred in the suburban districts of the metropolis, the Commissioner of Police have decided upon augmenting the police force by 300 men, and also to attach a corps of the A reserve to the S and K divisions. It is also intended to increase the number of police doing duty in the principal thoroughfares of the metropolis and crowded parts. The men of the A division, a division temporarily organized for the International Exhibition, and many of whom have had considerable experience, will be draughted to the different divisions, and it is hoped that these additional measures on the part of the Commissioners of Police will be attended with the desired result, namely, the suppression of outrages of the nature of those which have of late been of such frequent and alarming occurrence.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE CABINET, together with his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief, have had several meetings within the last few days for the purpose of seeing what room there is for reduction in the next Army Estimates.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

What is to be the position of our teachers in a following decade which is being faced by the Central Education Committee, Manchester, to elementary and secondary education in London. Some time must necessarily elapse before the whole is decided; but there is no reason why the proposition should not be adopted where practicable:—

Town Hall, Manchester, Nov. 28, 1862.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—The rapid increase of the destitute in the manufacturing districts induces the committee appointing the following description to express a hope that you will kindly consent to carry out the suggestion contained in the accompanying resolution, either by a weekly general collection in your church or chapel, or by placing boxes in some prominent place at the doors for the special purpose.

It is estimated that by this means no less a sum than £27,000 weekly will be available for the purposes of relief, if but £1 weekly be transmitted from every place of worship in the kingdom.

of the people who work in the kitchen. The committee is aware that churches and church-related organizations have already been made in aid of the or in lieu of the funds for the relief of the existing distress; but it is earnestly hoped that the urgency of the situation will induce all churches to make personal sacrifices, and that you may have no difficulty in according to the present proposal, without in any degree interfering with your ordinary funds. The committee would venture to suggest that some means be adopted to bring the subject specially before your congregation weekly, with the view of urging each individual to contribute

We shall feel obliged if you will kindly favour us with an early reply, addressed as directed below, and to return, yours respectfully, Abel Heywood, Mayor, Chairman; John Wm. Medhurst, Hon. Sec., Roselyd.—That a circular be addressed to every clergyman and minister of religion in the kingdom, urging the importance of instilling a weekly or monthly subscription for the relief of the destitute in the cotton districts, and that such circular shall be signed by the Mayor, and state the mode in which payments may be made. Subscribers may be paid through any banker to the credit of the fund with Messrs. Heywood Brothers and Co., Manchester (whose London agents are Messrs. Maitland and Co.), or they may be remitted by post, addressed to the honorary secretary, J. W. Medhurst, Esq., 21, New Cannon street, Manchester. Draughts, cheques, post-office orders, &c., should be drawn in favour of Heywood Brothers and Co.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF TWENTY-FOUR LIVES:

TWO men, survivors of a last disastrous shipwreck, have been landed at Queenstown, Cork, and are taken into the Cork Sailors' Home. On Sunday week the E. L. A., a barque of 750 tons, Captain Smith, left Liverpool for Monte Video, laden with machinery and coal. Her crew, inclusive of the officers, consisted of twenty-eight men. After passing Holyhead the breeze freshened, and it began to blow strong from the south-east. About two o'clock next morning the wind grew so strong that sail was shortened, and at nine o'clock in the forenoon the three top-gallant-masts were carried away. With the loss of these spars one man was carried overboard, another had his leg broken, and the third, one of the two landed at Queenstown, a man named Montgomery, had his arm dislocated at the shoulder. In an hour after the ship sprang a leak, and before long she had seven feet of water in the hold. The ship was then about mid-channel. All hands were employed at the pumps, but the leak continued to gain at the rate of an inch-and-a-half every two hours. The mate, an American, named Burns, urged the captain to bear up for Queenstown, but the captain refused. For twenty-four hours they continued in this position, when the captain at last consented, and the vessel's course was changed for this port. The wind, however, continued in full force, and the ship laboured heavily. All at once her three top-masts went by the board, and shortly after the sea began to make breach over her. One sea swept her fore and aft, carrying away with resistless force two boats, and no less than twelve men, not one of whom was ever seen again. At three o'clock she was completely awash and sinking. The two seamen who have been saved, William Lyons, a native of Liverpool, and John Montgomery, a native of Scotland, got into the life-boat and cut away the tackle. The boat was driven clear of the ship, and she had scarcely parted with it when the vessel went down bodily, with every soul on board, these two men alone excepting. A small schooner, named the Agia, whose captain was also an American named Smith, and like the lost vessel, was bound from Liverpool to Monte Video, how in sight to windward, and picked up the two men. They were received on board and treated with the greatest humanity. The schooner getting leaky, she had to bear up for Queenstown to get pumps repaired. At the Cork Sailors' Home they have been received with that kindness the institution is intended to show those in their unfortunate position, and every attention has been paid to them by the hon. secretary, Captain Stuart, R.N., to whom, we may add, it is owing that there exists such an establishment. The seafaring inmates of the home generously entered into subscription for the shipwrecked men, and provided them with a sum of money and clothes. The survivors were the only two British subjects in the entire crew. All the rest were American, and all strangers to each other, as they had only been shipped four days before leaving Liverpool.

PETITIOAT GOVERNMENT IN FRANCE.—We read in a Paris letter that there was lately held an extra Parliamentary meeting, consisting of about fifty "devoted and independent" members of the Corps Legislatif, who think it desirable to give the Emperor a friendly warning that public affairs are not going as they ought to do. The historical jealousy of Frenchmen of the intervention of a *quand même* (stillst) in the conduct of government was alluded to, and some very free observations were made about the influence of "crinolines" in the present day. Subsequently a deputation waited upon the Duke de Morny, as the President of the Chamber, to request him to make the Emperor acquainted with the sentiments of the meeting. The Duke told them he had already intended to offer some respectful observations to the Emperor in the sense of their resolutions. In answer to their complaints on the delicate subject of "crinolines," he said, laughingly, "C'est le commencement de la Régence." This *mot* has, it is said, had a great success.

THE EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF GREECE.—A despatch, dated Munich, Saturday last, says that a family council, attended by fourteen members of the dynasty, has been held under the presidency of King Louis of Bavaria. Prince Adalbert peremptorily refused to intermeddle in the rights of King Otho. His wife, an infanta of Spain, pronounced resolutely against any change of religion. King Louis then proposed to choose as successor to King Otho one of the sons of Prince Lipold, who should embrace the Greek religion; but the mother, the Archduchess Augusta of Tuscany, was opposed to any such act of apostasy. Nothing was decided. [It is not a little ludicrous to see these German princelings pretending to settle matters about which their credulous are not likely to be asked, and talking of accepting or rejecting a crown which has passed from their race for ever. Will Kings never learn to accept the inexorable logic of facts?]

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

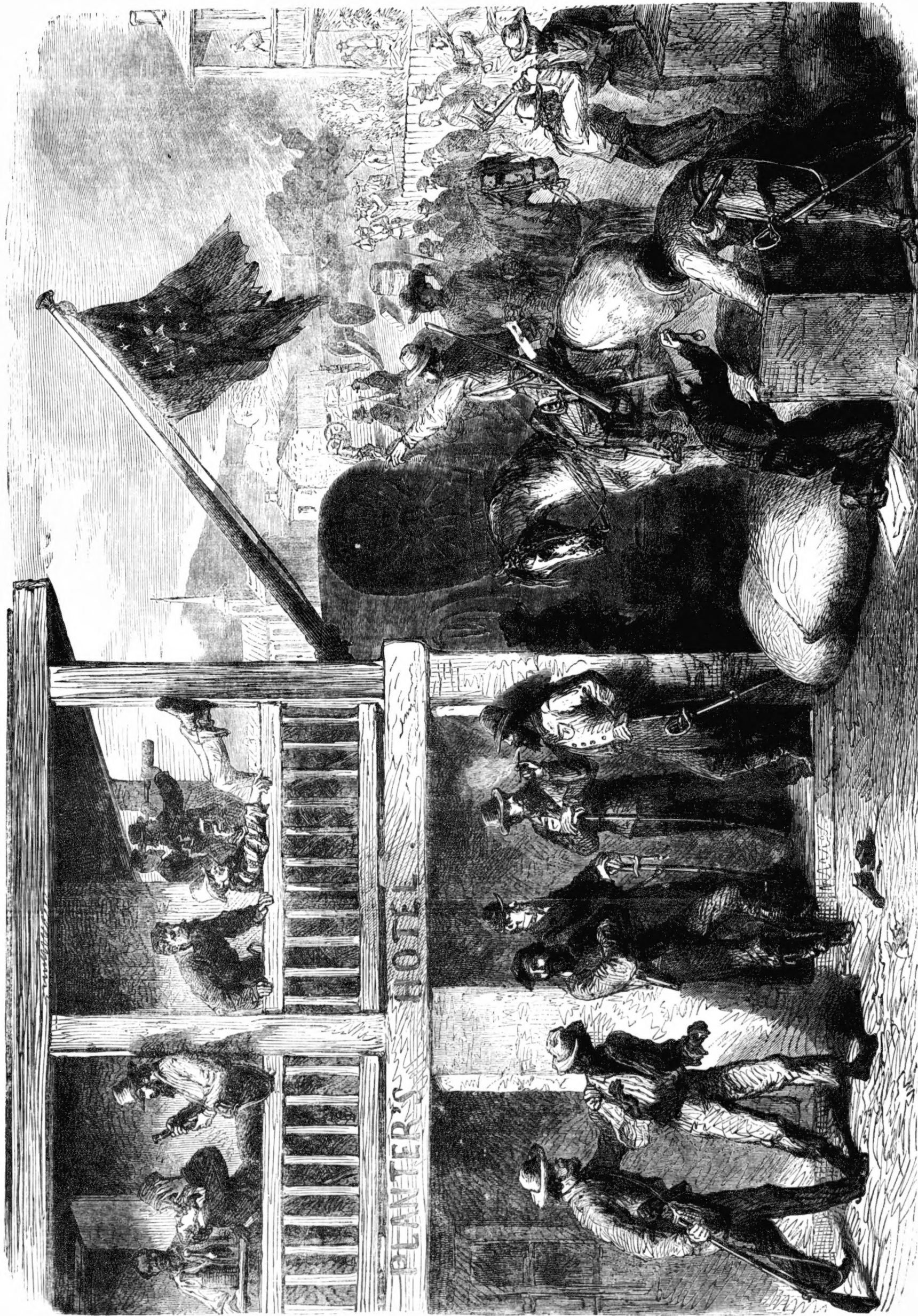
GENERAL STUART'S CAVALRY RECROSSING THE POTOMAC.

ONE of our Engravings Illustrative of the War in America represents the Confederate cavalry under General Stuart recrossing the Potomac after their successful raid into Maryland and Pennsylvania. This daring excursion was made a few days after the battle of Antietam, and had for its object the capture of large quantities of clothing and other stores which had been collected at Chambersburg, in Pennsylvania, for the use of the State militia. The dashing Confederate leader Stuart, with about 2000 troopers, passed the Potomac on one flank of the Federal army under McClellan, crossed Maryland, penetrated to Chambersburg in Pennsylvania, seized all the stores there, completely clothing and feeding well his half naked and fatigued troops, took possession of all the horses and forage he could collect by the way, and then returned by the other flank of the Federal army, and safely regained the southern side of the Potomac, while two or three of McClellan's lieutenants were vainly seeking for him in other directions. Of this exploit, which was regarded by both sides as one of the most daring and successful of the war, a full account has already appeared in our columns (see ILLUSTRATED TIMES for Nov. 1), and will still be fresh in the recollection of our readers.

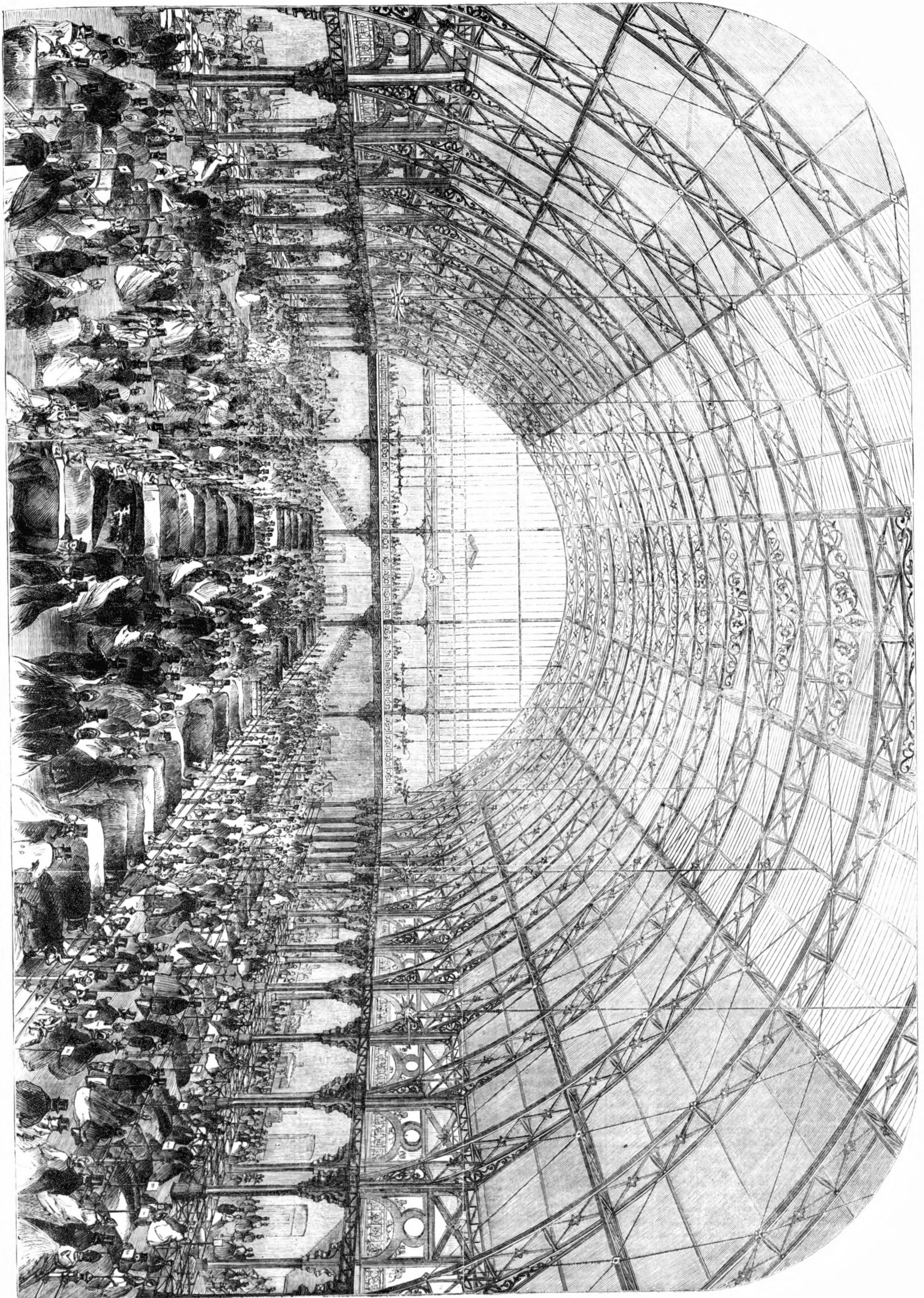
SOUTHERN VOLUNTEERS PASSING THROUGH GOSPORT

This Engraving represents one of the incidents of General Stuart's campaign in Virginia, where he succeeded in raising a large body of volunteers. The passage of a number of these through the town of Gopoto, which lay on their route, to join the main force on the Potomac, gave occasion for a scene which can only occur in a country during a civil war. To all the necessary refreshments to sustain them during the remainder of their journey they helped themselves liberally, and went their way, having entertained each other hospitably at the expense of the townspeople. This and the attack on Chambersburg helped to supply the pressing wants of the force.

According to the latest accounts a force of sixty Confederate cavalry had made a dash into Poolesville, Maryland, capturing the telegraph operators, whom they permitted to telegraph their capture to Washington.



THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.—HALT OF A TROOP OF SOUTHERN VOLUNTEERS IN THE TOWN OF GOSPORT.



THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—INTERIOR OF THE NEW AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.—SEE PAGE 530.

CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

On Saturday, Dec. 20, will be published, price 4½d., the

CHRISTMAS NUMBER AND SUPPLEMENT
OF THE
ILLUSTRATED TIMES,
containingPOEMS, TALES, AND SKETCHES APPROPRIATE TO THE SEASON,
by well-known Writers; together with the following

FIRST-CLASS ENGRAVINGS.

ILLUSTRATIVE OF CHRISTMAS AND ITS FESTIVITIES:—

1. My First and Last Christmas. In two Tableaux. By Florence Claxton.
2. A Christmas Masque before Charles I. at Whitehall. By J. A. Pasquier.
3. After the Christmas Party: The Departure Home. By W. C. Robinson.
4. Christmas in Denmark: a Visit to Grandpapa. From a Picture by J. J. Knorr.
5. The Old City Watch Going the Round on Christmas Eve. By Alfred Slader.
6. Christmas Eve at the Mermaid Tavern in Shakespeare's Time. By J. A. Pasquier.
7. Frosty Weather: A Gallop through the Lane. By Percival Skelton.
8. Christmas at the Tropics. By Florence Claxton.
9. Arrival of the Norfolk Coach at the Bull Inn, Aldgate: a Christmas Scene a Quarter of a Century ago. By W. McConnell.
10. After Dinner: a Christmas Incident of the Olden Time. By J. A. Pasquier.
11. A Live Alphabet of Christmas Fun, designed and drawn by C. H. Bennett.

In addition to the foregoing the same Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES will contain Engravings of the ESTHONEMENT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY in the Choir of the Cathedral:—The Procession Along the Nave; the Ceremony in the Chapter House; together with other interesting Illustrations and numerous Original Articles connected with the events of the week.

OUR CONTINENTAL SUBSCRIBERS.—Mr. Ludwig Peilke, Leipzig, has been appointed our special agent. Terms of Subscription at Leipzig: 4 Thaler 20 Groschen per Annum; 2 Thaler 10 Groschen per Half-year, including all Double Numbers.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1862.

MR. DIGBY SEYMOUR, Q.C.

In a passage which will be remembered by most students of English literature, Lord Macaulay, in his essay on "Moore's Life of Byron," writes:—"We know no spectacle so ridiculous as the British public in one of its periodical fits of morality. Once in six or seven years our virtue becomes outrageous. We must make a stand against vice. Accordingly, some unfortunate man, in no respect more depraved than hundreds whose offences have been treated with lenity, is singled out as an expiatory sacrifice. . . . If he has a profession, he is to be driven from it. At length our anger is satiated. Our victim is ruined and heartbroken; and our virtue goes quietly to sleep for seven years more."

From our commencing with a quotation of the above famous and truthful sentences, the reader may readily conjecture what will be the general tenour of our observations upon the case of Mr. Digby Seymour. We will not affect to consider him blameless, but we must, nevertheless, confess that a hard measure has been meted out to him. He has been held up to public reprehension as a "black sheep;" his character has been argued away on one side and vilified upon another; he has been railed at upon hustings, "mercifully reproved" by a secret tribunal of Benchers, yelled at by mobs, and libelled in the columns of the press; and all for what? Scarcely one in ten of his enemies would even venture to state, plainly and without comment, his reason for the display of so much animosity. Reduced to their simplest elements, Mr. Seymour's offences stand thus:—Yielding, at the outset of his career, to the delusive baits of professional and pecuniary advancement held out to him by certain one or more joint-stock undertakings, he fell into such misfortune as has happened to many an honest man by the failure of such schemes, and the cruel harshness of the English law, in such cases, against all their supporters, however innocent, who may happen to be possessed of capital or position. In this disaster Mr. Seymour proposed to an attorney who was pressing him, to work out the amount of his liabilities. Such a proposition would have been not only honest but honourable in any earthly trade, business, or profession but that of a barrister. And this constituted Mr. Seymour's sole offence in the eyes of the Benchers, who expressly acquitted him upon other charges, vague in character, but bearing reference to his conduct in relation to the joint-stock companies. But another cause of complaint was soon found, in which the public were likely to take higher interest. Mr. Seymour was elected a member of Parliament, supported the Government, and obtained a recordership. This of course necessitated his resignation of his seat, and to regain it in the usual course he again went to his former constituents. The inquiry by the Benchers, of which mysterious and exaggerated rumours had already reached the public ear, offered a weapon far too convenient to be let slip by his political opponents. He was assailed in consequence with fault, calumny, and invective, until at length, driven to bay, he defended himself with the warmth and vigour common alike to hustings' candidates and to men pressed by personal attack to the utmost limits of temper. He declared himself an illused and a persecuted man, stigmatised his hearing before the Benchers as unjust in the manner in which it was conducted, and avowed his belief that envy of his professional success and antipathy to him as an Irishman were the two leading motives of his enemies. This speech afforded them another opportunity, and was followed by an article in a legal journal, in which Mr. Seymour's career, "personal, political, and professional," was dissected in a manner much more worthy of the refined cruelty

of the press of thirty years since than the far higher tone of that of our day. That article has been declared by a jury to be libellous. This verdict was delivered by them after one of the most partial of recorded summings-up. The Lord Chief Justice directed the jury "that the inquiry (as to Mr. Seymour) was a public matter, and as such it was open to public criticism fairly and properly applied. It was difficult to say how the writer of the article could have brought the facts in connection with the inquiry before the Benchers and the result in a fairer manner than he had. It was true, as the defendant's counsel had said, that this article had not attacked Mr. Seymour until he had attacked everybody else." Can any summing-up be more directly in favour of a party than this? The Judge actually decides for the jury the whole question at issue as to the fairness of the comment—a question which, in ordinary cases, is the principal if not the only matter (besides the contingent one of damages) left for their decision. And yet the jury in this case found the article a libel, although they appear to have somewhat stultified that verdict, or at least rendered it incomprehensible, by awarding damages of forty shillings only.

But let the trial and the verdict stand for what they are worth. That is surely small enough, whether as a definition of the extent of the proper licence of the press, a reparation to Mr. Seymour, or an assertion of law, justice, and common sense. Our business is not with the jury, but with Mr. Seymour and his offences. The first is, that he offered to work out an attorney's demand in the only way possible to him. This, his Lordship tells the jury, is a serious matter, as it is inciting an attorney, to the possible detriment of his clients, to employ a counsel whom he otherwise might not have employed. True; but if the attorney do so, the fault is with him who betrays his trust to his client, and not with the counsel who performs honest labour for a just equivalent. And attorneys are not so silly as to intrust causes, even for the strongest personal reasons, to incompetent counsel. If Mr. Seymour be as competent as any one else, where can be the injury to the client? And of all the charges against him, that of professional incompetence has been unwhispered by his most cruel enemies until thus suggested by his Judge on the Bench. It may suit the Bar, of course, to hold up their hands in deprecation of such a crime as this. But who knows the secret history of many a top floor in the "Fields" and the Temple? Perhaps attorneys might enlighten the minds of their brethren in the higher branch of the profession did the former think fit to tell all they have known of poor struggling gentlemen of family, education, ay, of honour, too, whom they have never met in business save as suppliant defendants.

Mr. Seymour has complained that a set has been made against him as an Irishman. Mr. Serjeant Shee, himself of Irish extraction, points with pride and triumph to his numerous and honoured fellow-countrymen at the Bar, and denounces the imputation upon the liberality of his English brethren. Mr. Serjeant Shee speaks truth, but not quite all of it. Let any Irishman live (like the learned Serjeant himself) in such manner that not even envy can point to a spot or a tatter upon the forensic robe, and his nationality may be forgotten or remembered even to his honour. But let carping animosity once find a chance against him, and the place of his nativity will always furnish subject for the readiest gibe, the bitterest taunt, and the most contemptuous sneer.

Mr. Seymour, being in Parliament, was spoken to by a whipper-in, and received a recordership. Granted. But what upon earth does a constituency imagine to be the object of a rising barrister, just starting in his profession and ambitious of a seat? Do they not accept his principles, whether in favour of a present or possible Government, and leave to him every hope compatible with all but turning upon them afterwards and abjuring such principles? A whipper-in! Who and what is a whipper-in? The very existence of the appellation tells of a judicious distribution of Government patronage among the zealous and faithful. Is this a new thing? How are the highest prizes of the law gained—by professional endurance purely, or by political adhesion? If by the former, how comes it that the lord chancellorship, the attorney-generalship, and the solicitor-generalship all change hands with every change of Ministers?

We do not attempt to vindicate Mr. Seymour. But let us not be hypocrites in this matter. These things of which he is accused, for which he is to be branded as a black sheep, are not quite so uncommon as the bird resembling a black swan. Let us not put the sins of our Israel upon one poor victim, to be driven into the wilderness. Let us consider whether the words of Macaulay do not bear in them, as well as moral fact, a deep and deserved satire upon one of our commonest public errors.

THE MONUMENT TO COUNT CAVOUR.—The subscription to the monument to Count Cavour has been closed. The amount received exceeds 500,000fr., and a commission has been appointed to fix on the spot where it is to be erected. A competition has been opened among the principal Italian artists, and among the plans already sent in preference appears to be shown for a column in marble or bronze, similar to that of Trajan at Rome, and somewhat like that in the Place Vendôme in Paris. The statue of the illustrious Italian statesman would surmount it.

SERIOUS CASE OF ACCIDENTAL STARVING.—On Monday a case was brought under surgical treatment in the accident ward at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, eminently calculated to show the evils likely to result from the general use of dangerous weapons to counteract the attacks of garrotter. It appears that shortly before three o'clock the previous afternoon a party of young men were drinking together at a public-house in Gray's-inn-lane, some of whom were describing the modes they would adopt to resist the attacks of garroters, when one of them, a young man named Russell, exhibited a new spring dirk-knife, of rather formidable dimensions, and while in the act of displaying the mode in which he would use it in defence, gave the weapon a sudden flourish in his own, and unfortunately plunged it into the abdomen (just above the groin) of one of his companions, named Walter Wallis, inflicting a deep and frightful gash, from which the blood flowed profusely. He was at once conveyed to the above hospital, where he received prompt attention; but although it is doubted whether any vital injury has been sustained he still remains in a very precarious state.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

IT IS STATED THAT THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES will take place at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, in March next. The ceremony is to be celebrated with the utmost magnificence.

MR. BRIDGES, it is generally understood, is in such delicate health as to be under medical orders for rest and retirement.

MR. MAYALL, who had the honour of taking photographs of Princess Alexandra, in different attitudes, has been allowed to publish eight of them, since which time, we understand, he has received orders for 100,000.

M. EMILE DE GIBRARDIN has again joined the *Presse* as one of its writers. THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. STEPHEN'S-GREEN, DUBLIN, have refused to allow it to be converted into an Albert Park, and to be opened to the public.

KOSUTH has published a letter, in which he strongly advises the Italians to move on Venice first and Rome afterwards.

IT HAS BEEN STATED THAT THE MARQUIS OF HERTFORD has intimated his intention of leaving his splendid collection of pictures to the nation.

IT IS RUMORED IN PARIS that police agents have been sent to Turin to watch the movements of suspected persons there.

THE KING OF DELHI DIED AT RANGOON on the 11th ult., and was buried the same day. Little interest was exhibited by the Mohammedan population of Rangoon.

KING LEOPOLD appears to have deferred his intended journey to England until the marriage of the Prince of Wales.

SEVEN LARGE CASES containing presents from the two Emperors of Japan to the Emperor Napoleon have arrived at the Tuilleries by way of Southampton and Havre.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT has, it is said, made contracts for the supply of its armies in Mexico for two years.

ADVISES FROM LYONS AND ST. ETIENNE speak of a marked improvement of late in the manufacture of ribbons and silk at those places.

AT TUBINGEN, the place of the poet Uhland's birth and death, a committee has been formed for the erection of a monument to his memory.

SOME NEW YORK PEOPLE THREATENED TO FIT OUT A PRIVATE VESSEL, to prey on British commerce, in retaliation for the depredations committed by the Alabama.

DR. BITHUNS, the director of the Observatory of Leipzig, has discovered two new comets. The first appears as a very diffused nebula of about two minutes' diameter. The second comet is described as brighter than the first, and a better-defined object.

LAMARTINE, says a Paris letter, has just received £16,000 (400,000fr.) as the proceeds of a lottery, which will pay all his debts and enable him to end his days in comfort. The city of Paris gave him a beautiful purse.

MRS. SWINNEY, the chief witness in the famous "Swinney case," so called herself during the trial that she has since been seriously ill.

A WARSAW LETTER states that acts of vengeance are fast becoming a police still continue. One of these agents has recently been poisoned at a café, but medical aid was procured in time to prevent a fatal result.

A COMMISSION HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT to inquire into the working of the bankruptcy laws in different European countries, with a view to reform the system now followed in the Ottoman Empire.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. NORMAN TAYLOR, registrar of Rochdale Cemetery, for indelicately disintering bodies at the cemetery, was again heard at Rochdale on Saturday. After a long examination he was committed for trial, but bail was offered and accepted.

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS OFFERED A PRIZE OF 100,000 FRANCES FOR A KIND OF TOBACCO, whether home-grown or foreign, which shall possess all the qualities of the Virginian leaf, the Civil War in America having caused the tobacco of that country to rise to a price that practically renders it inaccessible to the ordinary consumer.

SOME FORTY YEARS AGO a person residing at Old Malton was supposed to have burglariously entered a cottage and stolen some bank-notes. The other day, in pulling down the cottage, the bank-notes were found between the lath and chaff of the roof.

NEGOTIATIONS are said to have been entered upon with a view to marry Donna Isabella, the future Empress of the Brazils, to the Hereditary Prince of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, a member of the Royal family of Prussia and brother of the late Queen of Portugal.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK will take their seats in the House of Lords at the commencement of the next session of Parliament in virtue of their respective sees. Dean Elliott, the new Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, will remain without a seat, under the Manchester Bishops Act, until another see becomes vacant.

THE FUNERAL OF PROFESSOR SHAW, teacher of English literature at the St. Petersburg University, who died a few days since, has just taken place. A large concourse of persons were present (and amongst them several Grand Dukes) to pay the last honours to the Professor.

THE MARSILLAS JOURNALS are filled with accounts of the damage caused there by storms which have prevailed for some days. The foundations of a great number of houses, both old and new, but especially the latter, have given way. The damage done at Marsailles alone is estimated at 600,000fr.

ACCORDING to a desire which he expressed before his decease, the remains of Mr. James Sheridan Knowles have been conveyed from Torquay, Devonshire, to Glasgow, and deposited in the Egyptian vault in the Necropolis, where they will remain till a suitable place of interment can be obtained.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH has just dispatched to the eminent historical painter, Horace Vernet, the decorations of a grand officer of the Legion of Honour, accompanied by an autograph letter. This mark of special favour was designed as something to alleviate the pains of the severe illness under which the distinguished artist labours.

MR. MARSHALL WOOD has been commissioned to execute a statue of the Queen, to be erected in Montreal. Mr. Woolner is engaged upon a statue of Prince Albert for Oxford. Mr. Thornycroft has a commission to execute an equestrian statue in bronze at Halifax, to commemorate the late Prince Consort, and has presented his model to the committee appointed to see the thing done.

THE PROFESSORSHIP OF CLASSICAL LITERATURE IN KING'S COLLEGE, London, will become vacant at Easter next by the resignation of the Rev. Archdeacon Browne, who has been nominated to the rectory of Westonsuper-Mare, in the room of Archdeacon Law, who has been appointed to the deanery of Gloucester.

ARCHDUKE FERDINAND MAXIMILIAN OF AUSTRIA is at the present moment living quietly with the Archduchess, in the island of Lacerona, near Ragusa, where he inhabits the simple retreat which was built in 1192 by Richard Cœur de Lion on his return from the Crusades. The Archduke is reported as having but few persons with him, and as being engaged in scientific pursuits.

THE KING OF HANOVER has just celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his career as a musical composer, the first of his compositions being dated Dec. 1, 1837. His Majesty has composed more than 200 pieces, consisting of ballads, quatuors, &c. The Queen got up a little concert on the occasion, in which the Princesses of the Royal family and some artists of the opera executed several of the King's compositions.

A DECISION was recently come to by the Director-General of the French Post Office abolishing the privilege hitherto enjoyed by provincial scientific associations of exchanging their publications postage-free. A society at Cambridge, which had forwarded seventy-eight copies of its last publication, under the envelope of the Ministry of Public Instruction, has been called on to pay 144fr. for their postage as unpaid letters.

THE FEDERAL CORVETTE ONWARD, Captain Nickels, put into Falmouth on Saturday last from Fajal, to repair some slight damage and to revictual. She is of about 900 tons, has nine guns and 114 hands, and is one of the ships on the look-out for the Alabama. Her crew appear to be in a very unsatisfactory state of discipline, as her officers cannot come on shore in the ship's boats from fear of the men deserting.

IT HAS BEEN REMARKED THAT the three first subjects in the realm have been fellows and tutors of colleges at Oxford. The Archbishop of Canterbury was student and tutor of Christ Church; the Lord Chancellor, fellow and tutor of Wadham College; the Archbishop of York, fellow and tutor, and afterwards Provost, of Queen's College.

A TELEGRAM FROM JUBAL brings news of the total loss of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Colombo. She was carrying the homeward Calcutta, China, and Australian mails, and was wrecked on Minicoy Island. All her passengers and crew, and a portion of the mails, were saved.

TWO LAWS have just been published in Austria relative to individual liberty and the inviolability of the domicile. These laws are at present imperfect, but they are based substantially on what is known in England as the Habeas Corpus Act. A law respecting the press is about to be published, which is to abolish the system of authorisations and all preventive measures.

AT A RECENT SITTING OF THE BELGIAN CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES a petition from the communal council of Marchiennes relative to the employment of children in factories was discussed, but no decision was come to, and the heads of manufactures remain at liberty to act as hitherto in the matter.

A SASSAGE ALMANAC has just been published at Rome, at the office of the *Universale Romano*, under the title of "Benefactors of Humanity." These excellent persons, the portraits of whom are given, are Pius IX., Cardinal Antonelli, Francis II., the Duke of Modena, the Duke of Parma, and the directors of the clerical journals the *Avvenire* and the *Contemporaneo*.

A VERY REMARKABLE TALKING AUTOMATON is exciting the curiosity of the Parisians. It has been constructed by M. Faber, late Professor of Mathematics at a German university, and is stated by our contemporary, *l'Evening*, to be by far the most successful effort that has yet been made to imitate the human voice. The figure, which is that of a woman, is exhibited on the Boulevard Magenta.

THE NEW BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

THE Most Rev. Charles John Ellicott, B.D., the newly-appointed Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, son of the Rev. Charles S. Ellicott, Rector of Whitwell, near Stamford, was born at Whitwell, in 1819, and was educated at Oakham and Stamford Schools, and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in honours in 1841, and subsequently became Fellow of his college. He obtained the First Member's prize in 1842, and the Hulsean prize in 1843, on "The Obligation of the Sabbath." In 1848 he was appointed to the small living of Pilton, in Rutlandshire, which he resigned in 1858, and in the same year was chosen to succeed Dean Trench as Professor of Divinity in King's College, London. In 1859 he was appointed Hulsean Lecturer, and in the following year was elected Hulsean Professor of Divinity at Cambridge. In 1861 he accepted the deanery of Exeter, and now succeeds Dr. Thomson as Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. Bishop Ellicott is the author of "Critical and Grammatical Commentaries" on the Epistles of St. Paul to the Galatians and Ephesians, Philipians, Colossians, Thessalonians, Philemon, and on the "Pastoral Epistles." His latest work is "Historical Lectures on the Life of our Lord;" and his earliest a "Treatise on Analytical Statics."

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF PARAGUAY.

DON FRANCISCO SOLANO LOPEZ has been called to the presidency of the Republic of Paraguay, in accordance with the private will of his father, by virtue of a right conferred upon him by the Constitution enabling him to appoint his successor.

Born at Assumption in 1827, Don Francisco has already occupied the high positions of Brigadier-General of the Army and Minister of War and Marine. Indeed, it may be said that he personally inaugurated the recognition of Paraguay in its modern relations to European States, since he came as the representative of the Republic in order to ratify the treaties concluded between his Government and those of France, England, and Sardinia. He was also appointed Plenipotentiary for effecting the treaty which ended the difficulties between Paraguay and Brazil.

The history of this Republic, which occupies the



REV. DR. ELLICOTT, THE NEW BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAULL AND POLYBLANK.)

centre of South America and is considerably larger than Great Britain, is remarkable enough.

Sailing upwards from the wide embouchure of La Plata River, the early Spanish navigators attempted to form a colony upon its banks, but their scanty settlements were destroyed by the warlike natives of the surrounding plains, until, in 1535, Don Pedro de Mendoza was sent with a large number of vessels with the determination of founding a permanent colony. Disregarding the country where the former attempts had proved so disastrous, he sailed for nearly a thousand miles up the rivers Paraná and Paraguay, and founded the town of Assumption as a centre from which his countrymen eventually spread over a great part of the South American continent. Late in the seventeenth century the Jesuits, who established missions on the banks of the Paraná, obtained a mandate from the Spanish Court forbidding all other Spaniards to enter their *Misiones* without their permission, and devoting their labours to the Guaranis, a tribe inhabiting the country on both sides of the river. In 1767, when the Jesuits were expelled, their territory was occupied by at least 100,000 civilised Indians, the majority of whom settled in Paraguay, afterwards subject to the Viceroy of Buenos Ayres.

In 1810, when the Government of Buenos Ayres became independent of Spain, Paraguay refused its allegiance to the new dictation, and, after defeating General Belgrano, who had been sent to reduce it to submission, itself became independent.

From having enjoyed a considerable trade, however, its commercial prosperity dwindled under the new administration, which not only excluded foreigners from residence in the country but forbade commerce with other nations.

From 1817, when it attained its independence until 1844, Paraguay was entirely closed to the advantages of foreign trade, and it was not until 1852 that a new policy began to operate beneficially for its political importance.

While these ill effects were produced, however, it must be admitted that the country suffered less than the rest of the South American Republics from internal dissensions, while the population preserved its peculiar features and was more firmly consolidated into a distinct people, the bulk of which was formed by the Guaranis, who had adopted the arts and agriculture of Europe, while



THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—EXTERIOR OF THE NEW AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON—SEE PAGE 530.

the Mestizos, or descendants of Spaniards and Indians, inhabited some of the towns.

Under the presidency of their present ruler, who will doubtless still further develop the commercial relations of the country, Paraguay may, during the next thirty years, exhibit a progress as remarkable as the isolation which characterises her recent history.

THE ACCIDENT TO MDLLE. LIVRY.

THERE is something very terrible in those accidents to which actresses and dancers have so often fallen victims in consequence of the light and inflammable materials of which their theatrical dresses are composed. Unfortunately, the almost constant recurrence of fatal results from similar causes in private life has accustomed us to regard them with little surprise, but "death by fire," always awful, becomes more terrible when it is accompanied by lights and music, and the glittering paraphernalia of the stage.

Who cannot imagine the bursting out of the sudden flame; the piercing shrieks of the victim as its hungry tongues lap her light robes; her frantic rush across the stage, where the shivering, shrieking group of girls huddle together in the fear of being also set on fire; the sudden stopping of the orchestra; the low wailing cry which sounds from pit, and gallery, and boxes, when the paralysis of sudden horror has subsided; the shrieks, and groans, and struggles of the people—the trampling of men across the stage, where the fireman has already smothered the flames with cloak or heavy drapery; the bearing away a charred and perhaps a lifeless mass, which was just before applauded as a dainty human form—so graceful, and so agile!

An accident from fire is a fearful thing, but on the stage it culminates by means of the accessories by which it is surrounded.

All this has recently taken place in Paris at the Théâtre de l'Opéra, the sufferer being Mdle. Emma Livry, who was playing in the part of Fenella, in "Muette de Portici." She was just about to appear in the scene in the second act, standing upon a piece of rock, and was waiting for the conclusion of Signor Mario's song, when her skirts caught one of the jets of gas which was too near the elevated place on which she stood. A fireman, who saw her danger, cried out to her not to move, and, rushing forward, attempted to crush out the flame, but, with that unhappy impulse which seems always to attend such accidents, she began to run, and actually traversed the scene twice in a column of fire, and amidst the shrieks of the people, which mingled with her own agonising cries for help. As she reached the left *coulisse*, however, a fireman, who had obtained a large cloth (it is said prepared expressly for such an event), wrapped it round her, and, throwing her upon the ground, crushed out the fire with his hands, which were considerably burnt. Meanwhile the medical attendant of the theatre gave directions for her being carried home, and she was borne in a melancholy procession, groaning and crying with pain, to her house in the Rue Lafitte. The injuries she had sustained were found to be very severe, and even when the medical skill exercised in her behalf had partially restored her from the effects of the burns, she fell into a violent fever, which placed her life in equal danger. During her illness Mdle. Livry has been the subject of constant inquiries by most of the members of the fashionable world of Paris, and it may be predicted that her return to the theatre, of which there is now great hope, will be the occasion of an enthusiastic reception.



DON FRANCISCO SOLANO LOPEZ, THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY.

It is said that she wore eleven skirts, which were utterly consumed, and that when, during her illness, somebody was mentioning the danger of the light material, and advocating the petticoats made from incombustible fabrics, she replied, "Yes, they are, as you say,

less dangerous; but should I ever return to the theatre I should never think of wearing them—they are so ugly."

RESPIRATION.

THE study of the chemical phenomena resulting from the act of breathing has claimed the attention of many celebrated philosophers; but one of the chief obstacles generally met with by experimentalists in arriving at a satisfactory result has been the difficulty of placing the subject, whether a man or an animal, in a condition of everyday life while the experiment was in progress; a desideratum but imperfectly attained by confining the subject in a small room without any accurate means either of renewing the air in a given proportion or of letting out a part of it. Through the munificence of the King of Bavaria, Dr. Max Pettenkofer, of Munich, has at length been enabled to construct an apparatus offering every desirable facility for the purpose in view. It consists of a room containing a space of 12·7 cubic metres; its height, length, and breadth are the same, and it may be conveniently furnished with a bed and a table, a space being still left to walk about in. The air is renewed by means of a ventilator, and its quantity measured by an improved gas-meter. It is not allowed to rush in so as to produce an inconvenient draught, but is let in gradually at the rate of eight-thousandths of a cubic metre per second, which amounts to fifteen cubic metres per hour. But Dr. Pettenkofer may introduce five times that quantity—viz., 208 ten-thousandths per second, without creating a draught. Some of the results obtained by Dr. Pettenkofer through the aid of his apparatus are valuable in a hygienic point of view. He shows, for instance, that the proportion of carbonic acid which, in the open air, amounts to six ten-thousandths may by respiration in a confined atmosphere attain one-thousandth before producing a disagreeable sensation. Nor is it exclusively to carbonic acid the sense of oppression we feel in a confined room should be attributed; for we can breathe very well in an atmosphere containing as much as a hundredth part of carbonic acid chemically produced, while the same quantity produced by respiration will poison the air to such a degree as to render it almost insupportable. Indeed, the most fetid prisons scarcely contain such a proportion of it. Admitting that the average volume of air introduced into the lungs by inspiration to be five litres per minute in an adult, the average quantity of carbonic acid rejected by exhalation is 23·100ths of a litre per minute, or nearly 14 litres per hour. Admitting that this carbonic acid only represents two-thirds of the oxygen consumed, and the other third to have been employed in producing water and other oxygenised compounds, there would be a diminution of 6·9 litres per hour in the volume of air inhaled compared to that of the air exhaled. Dr. Pettenkofer, besides measuring the air of his apparatus with precision, is enabled to charge it with any proportion of carbonic acid by a new process, in which he uses a solution of barytes, and the proportion of aqueous vapour he introduces is measured by the absorbing quality of sulphuric acid. To ascertain the nature of the atmosphere which fills his apparatus he burns a given quantity of stearine in it, and then measures the carbonic acid produced. In one of his experiments he has ascertained that in a state of inanition a man will exhale 620 grammes of carbonic acid in twenty-four hours, while the same subject fed with succulent dishes exhales 860 grammes of the same.



FEARFUL ACCIDENT TO MDLLE. LIVRY AT THE ITALIAN OPERA-HOUSE, PARIS.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

LAST Saturday Mr. Arthur Chappell gave a concert at the St. James's Hall, in the exact style of the celebrated "Monday Popular Concerts," for the benefit of the Lancashire poor. A more interesting entertainment has not been given since the Monday Popular Concerts were first started. The principal instrumentalists were Messrs. Joachim, Patti, Hallé, and Paner; the chief singers Miss Banks and Mr. Sandley. But, in spite of the attractiveness of the programme as regards the artists engaged, in spite, also, of the fact that it contained a remarkable number of interesting pieces, the attendance was decidedly unsatisfactory compared with what it is on ordinary "Monday Popular" nights. This is a result which cannot well be explained, but which must certainly be regretted. Perhaps amateurs make their arrangements for Monday nights, and are put out by a concert of the "Monday Popular" character taking place on a Saturday. However that may be, they did not make their appearance on the Saturday night in question, when it was particularly desirable that they should be present, and one of the best concerts ever given was worse attended than many very indifferent ones, which, under a reign of correct taste, would scarcely find a stable listener.

The most important performers at the Monday Popular Concerts are, of course, the instrumentalists. It is not easy to find vocalists who can sing as Mr. Joachim can play, and, on the whole, the vocal portion of these entertainments is not of so high a character as the instrumental. Nevertheless, if we have two good voices in England among the men, these singers are Mr. Sandley and Mr. Sims Reeves, both of whom are frequently engaged at the Monday Popular Concerts. The great tenors of the Continent are gradually losing their prestige, it is not their voices; and probably at this moment Mr. Sims Reeves is the most successful tenor in Europe. As for Mr. Sandley, we do not know whether or not he is the first baritone of the day, but the question is not important; he has an admirable voice and sings to perfection. We are not acquainted with any baritone of whom it would not be high praise to say that he sings as well as Mr. Sandley.

The lady vocalists who take part in the Monday Popular Concerts are not, as a rule, the most distinguished in the world. But Miss Louisa Paine is engaged at the Royal English Opera; and Misses Lemmens-Sherrington is singing—who knows where? On Saturday last, however, Miss Banks sang Glinka's beautiful lullaby ("Sleep, thou infant angel, sleep!") really as well as it could be sung. Her pure, clear tones (the effect of which is enhanced by her simple, unaffected manner) are heard to great advantage in this calm, melodious air. Russian amateurs of music would do well to get up a subscription with the view of presenting some memorial to the vocalist who "interprets" with such success the music of their most esteemed composer. Miss Banks might also throw a few flowers on the tomb of Glinka, for certainly she has never gained more well-merited applause than in his charming cradle-song.

We must not forget to mention that all the singers and musicians who took part in the concert of Saturday gave their services gratuitously, but Mr. Arthur Chappell defrayed all expenses, the whole of the receipts being handed over to the Lancashire Fund. The sum taken was not so much as might have been expected, but must have amounted, nevertheless, to a very respectable figure—something, let us say, between one and two hundred pounds.

At the Monday Popular Concert of the 8th inst., Mr. Joachim performed for the last time in London, previous to his departure for Hanover, where he is engaged to conduct a series of concerts at the Court. As this was the last concert of the season, we subjoin the full programme by way of specimen, for the benefit of those persons who are not in the habit of attending these entertainments:—

PART I.	
Quartet, in D minor, for two violins, viola, and violoncello (MM. Joachim, L. Hies, H. Webb, and Patti) ..	Schubert.
Prélude à l'opéra, "L'Étoile du Nord" (Mlle. Florence Lancini) ..	Meyerbeer.
Songs, "Stars of the summer night," and "I know thou dost love me" (Mr. Sims Reeves) ..	Melique.
Sonata, in A flat, op. 33, for pianoforte alone (Mr. Charles Hallé) ..	Weber.
PART II.	
Selections from Sonata, in D minor, for violin alone (first time at the Monday Popular Concerts—Herr Joachim) ..	Bach.
Song, "The Message" (Mr. Sims Reeves) ..	Blumthal.
Song, "The merry Flower Girl" (Mlle. Florence Lancini) ..	G. A. Osborne.
Sonata, in A, op. 47, dedicated to Krüger, for pianoforte and violin (Mr. Charles Hallé and Herr Joachim) ..	Beethoven.
Conductor—Mr. Benedetti.	

What is the meaning of Signor Mario's failure in Paris? There are failures, of course, of many kinds: that of the vocalist who can't sing, that of the vocalist who won't sing (this is very rare), and that of the vocalist who is not allowed to sing. Signor Mario's failure cannot be placed in the first category, nor altogether in the second, but partly in the second and principally in the third. In the first act of the "Huguenots" he is said to have sung admirably. In the second he pronounced some French words almost, as incorrectly as the French, when they sing at an Italian theatre, habitually pronounce Italian. This excited the derision of the intelligent audience. The *génie essentiellement vaudevilliste des Français*—of which Victor Hugo, in one of his most celebrated prefaces, expressed a contempt which Balzac afterwards indorsed—had been appealed to. The witty Parisians thought it much more clever to ridicule the Italian tenor's bad pronunciation than to listen to his beautiful singing. Then Mario lost his temper, his nerve, and at the same time his voice. He was actually hissed at the end of the duet with Valentine, which he never sang in London without obtaining the most enthusiastic applause—from an audience which rarely applauds anything very much. Perhaps he had pronounced the French *tu* like the Italian *tu*, or perhaps, never having been hissed before, and not liking it, he felt agitated and was really unable to sing. However that may have been, hissed he was; we mention it not as a disgrace to him but to the French audience, who would probably have hissed Patti or any one else whom Italian audiences always applaud. "Aussi que diable allait-il faire dans cette galère?"—when there is an Italian theatre in Paris, then the public is always eager to hear every phrase that falls from his lips?

"I was always tolerably calm at a success as well as at a fiasco," said Rossini to Ferdinand Hiller one day, "and for this I have to thank an impression I received in my earliest youth, and which I shall never forget. Before my first operetta was brought out, I was present at the performance of a one-act opera by Simon Mayer. Mayer was then the hero of the day, and had produced at Venice perhaps twenty operas with the greatest success. In spite of this, however, the public treated him, on the evening to which I refer, as if he had been some ignorant vagabond. You cannot imagine such a piece of grossness. I was really astounded. 'Is it thus you reward a man who for so many years has given you enjoyment? Can you dare to take such a liberty because you have paid two or three paoli for admittance? If that be the case, it's not worth while to take your judgment to heart,' thought I, and I have always acted in conformity with that opinion." Mario should do the same.

THE REMAINS OF THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT.—It is expected that the remains of his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort will be removed from the Royal vault in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, before the 14th inst., to their last resting-place, which has been prepared in the new Royal mausoleum now in the course of erection in Frogmore Gardens. This beautiful building is gradually advancing towards completion.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF LEIPZIG.—Next year being the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Leipzig, a project has been put forward for the erection of a great national German monument, a sort of Temple of Victory, with statues, busts, and portraits of conspicuous military characters, and bas-reliefs and pictures of the most important episodes of the great fight. Contributions, it is proposed, should be extensively invited. The project is on a grand scale, and includes that of a complete museum of the battle, to contain relics and memorials of the most various kinds, specimens of all the weapons used, and suits of all the uniforms worn by the various regiments, copies of all the pictures of the battle already existing, and a library of the literature relating to it. In short, to carry out the plan as sketched by its originators a very large sum would be required, and it is no detraction from the patriotic and national spirit of Germany to doubt if it would easily be raised for such a commemoration of a battle the magnitude and results of which fully suffice to secure it against oblivion.

DREADFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

A FEARFUL explosion took place on Monday at the extensive colliery known as "Edmond's Main," at Worsbrough, near Barnsley, by which a great number of lives have been sacrificed. The calamity is the most serious that has occurred in the district since the great explosion at Lundhill, and has occasioned a great sensation throughout the whole neighbourhood, which is exclusively occupied in mining operations. The colliery is the property of Messrs. Mitchell, Bartholomew, and Tyar, and is one of the most extensive of those worked in the Barnsley seam, the bed of coal being 9 ft. 1 in. The workings extend for more than a mile from north to south, and there are three shafts—two downcast, and one over the cupul-frames—by which the ventilation is obtained.

The primary cause of the accident was the ignition of a "blower" of gas by the blasting of the coal at the extreme "dip-point" at the southernmost extremity of the workings. It seems that the mine was being connected with a new shaft which had been sunk to the southward, and a straight heading was being driven through the coal in the direction of this shaft. About seven or half-past seven on Monday morning the men engaged in the operation found it necessary to "blast" the coal, and a charge of powder ("a shot") was accordingly fired. It seems that the coal in the new workings gave out a great quantity of gas, and the men were obliged to use Davy lamps to ward off danger. One of the men states that "the gas was coming out at a great rate." The shot was fired, and it ignited a "blower" of the gas, which exploded, set fire to the coal, and blew down a portion of the air-course. At this time there were about 250 men and boys in the mine, and when so alarming an occurrence took place in one part of the workings had taken place, the reasonable inference seems to be that the persons in charge of the mine should have sent word to all the men warning them that there was danger of an explosion. Some of the men, however, say that this was not done. It appears that George Laighton, the bottom steward, an experienced and intelligent man, endeavored to put out the fire without allowing the miners to become cognisant of its existence and the danger it entailed. He went with a party of the men, and commenced building a solid brick "stopping" to restore the ventilation. The work was carried on vigorously, and an attempt made concurrently to put out the fire; but neither seems to have been successful. The foul air accumulated in the mine until, at about half-past eleven o'clock, a fearful explosion took place, the gas having fired where the coal was burning. The effect of the explosion was most disastrous, many of the air-courses were blown down, and the miners began to flock to the bottom of the main shaft. Many of them received their first warning of danger by the presence of the deadly after-damp in their workings.

The alarm among the miners became great, and large numbers congregated at the bottom of the shaft; but notwithstanding the excitement the shaft was worked with quickness and order, and many of the men were rescued. Hopes were entertained that the whole would be brought out before any serious calamity took place, an event which was dreaded every moment in consequence of the rapid accumulation of gas. The communication between some parts of the mine and the shaft had been destroyed by the second explosion, and a number of men and boys, variously estimated at from fifty to seventy, were still in the mine. The hope of rescue appeared every moment growing fainter, and the hearts of those who were in safety on the pit bank were deeply moved on behalf of the comrades who were threatened with such a fate. As is always the case on such occasions, a number of noble fellows volunteered to go down into the mine and search for those who had been cut off from rescue by the progress of the suffocating vapour. Five men, named George Laighton, the bottom steward; Henry Laighton, his eldest son; Charles Frabisher, John Parlin, and Benjamin Heyland, were the volunteers; and it is one of the most melancholy facts connected with the calamity that these noble men became involved in the fate of those whom they were endeavouring to rescue. They had been for some time in the mine, and a number of the injured men—some of them in such a condition that death would have been welcomed as a release from intolerable agony—had been sent to the pit bank, when suddenly a third explosion took place, about one o'clock and sent the fate of all who were then in the mine. The effect of the repeated explosions had been, of course, almost wholly to destroy the means of ventilating the mine. The doors and stoppings in nearly every part of the mine had been demolished, and the current of air, no longer compelled to pass through the whole of the mine, on its way to the upcast shaft, was felt only in the direct level from one shaft to the other. The headings and board ways were totally without ventilation, and became magazines of explosive gas. An "overthrow," or bricked archway, which was built on the incline, about 160 yards from the cupul, to carry the air over the workings, was blown down, and the ventilation was necessarily destroyed in that part of the mine. In other parts of the workings the force of the blast produced the same effects. When the third explosion took place a consultation was held at the pit bank, and, as the shaft-gear was not injured, several persons volunteered to go down and rescue the poor fellows who remained in the mine. The attempt to penetrate the workings was, however, entirely fruitless of aught save danger to those who made it. Repeated efforts were made, but all ended in disappointment. The men found they could pass with comparative ease along the main road between the upcast and downcast shafts for a short time after the third blast in consequence of the current of air which was travelling over the level; but in a short time this path became impassable by the advance of the fire and "afterdamp," and at about four o'clock orders were issued to allow no more men to descend the shaft. When the last party returned, they reported that the place was so full of foul vapour that they found it impossible to proceed more than ten or twelve yards from the bottom of the shaft. This was a plain and fearful indication of the fate of those who remained in the mine, and the survivors abandoned all hope that any more would be rescued alive. The unhappy fulfilment of the gloomy forebodings that had been entertained gave rise to a very distressing scene around the pit. The relatives of the miners had clustered around the mine in an incredibly short time after the news of the second explosion spread abroad, and a degree of anxiety which words cannot depict was visible on the countenances of the wives and mothers and other relatives of the men. As the "cage" made repeated ascents before the third explosion, each time bringing a number of men to the safety of the pit bank, the joyous feelings of their relatives or friends were manifested with more or less of demonstration. Some of the men were seriously affected by the afterdamp, but they recovered in a few minutes with the pure air, and were able to proceed to their homes.

As soon as it became known that nothing more could be attempted, the anxious crowd on the pit bank considerably diminished, and few remained about but those officially connected with the colliery. The mourners had gone to their desolate homes, and those whose husbands or sons had been rescued were eager to administer assistance or consolation to those in less fortunate circumstances. The houses of mourning might be met with on every hand in Worsbrough, in Barnsley, in Barnsley, and on Worsbrough-common. In the latter little village no fewer than seventeen places were vacant, their occupants being in the ill-fated mine. One woman in Barnsley was widowed for the second time. Her first husband was killed in the terrible explosion at Darley Main Colliery many years ago, and her second has perished in Edmond's Main. Sons have been snatched away; brothers, fathers, and even grandfathers are among those that are gone, and grievous will be the distress in many a family this Christmas-tide. The bread-winners are taken away, and only lonely and helpless women are left.

The explosion turns out to have been of a much more destructive and terrible character than was at first reported. The deaths, it is now believed, will not be short of a hundred. The names of forty-six of the dead have been already ascertained, and many others are not up to this time accounted for. The pit is still on fire, and a consultation with the Government Inspector is now going on in order to devise some plan for extinguishing it. As one means to this end, a trench is being dug to flood the pit with water.

MEMORIAL TO WILLIS, THE AUSTRALIAN EXPLORER.—A bill has been introduced in the House of Commons, the object of which is to commemorate the memory of the late Mr. Willis, an Australian explorer, who it is believed, lost his life in the recent and unfortunate expedition of the late Mr. Willis, which it is proposed to commemorate his memory by a public subscription. Some difference of opinion appears to exist as to the form of the memorial. The committee appointed at the preliminary meeting of the House of Commons, on the subject, Mr. W. O'Brien has suggested that a reservoir should be constructed, to be called "Willis Reservoir," which would not only form a lasting memorial of the late Mr. Willis, but be of much service to the place by providing a supply of water for domestic purposes, and for better security against fire. Mr. O'Brien also suggested the erection of a fountain on the hill in connection with the reservoir. The plan is entrusted with much favour by the members, many of whom have promised to donate their contributions in order to carry out Mr. O'Brien's suggestions in an efficient manner.

LAW AND CRIME.

HALL V. SEMPLE.

THE case of "Hall v. Semple," which has occupied several days in the Court of Common Pleas, is one of such great public interest that we feel justified in devoting to it a report, although no money is concerned, somewhat more detailed than is usual in these columns. The cause of action was an alleged infringement of the plaintiff's right to a large certificate of his lunacy, signed by the defendant, a surgeon and apothecary, and also by another medical practitioner included in the action. The plaintiff was a china and glass dealer, in business in Tottenham-court-road. He was unfortunate in his married life. According to his own account his wife was a violent, drunken woman, who was in the habit of pawning his goods, and spending the proceeds, and of creating disturbances in his room and outside, to the great injury of his trade. Her misconduct began about three weeks after his marriage, in 1831. He had on several occasions been obliged to apply to a Police Court, in order to obtain protection against her, and she had more than once been bound over to keep the peace in consequence. She continually got into debt, with Sally and others. The plaintiff, who is reported to have given his evidence with great clearness and intelligence, deposes as follows:—

On the 26th of July last defendant called and asked to see Mrs. Hall. Plaintiff declined to call her unless he first knew defendant's business. Defendant said he had called about her bad breast. He replied that, so, his wife told him; she had no bad breast. He told defendant that Dr. Griffiths had attended her for twenty years, and he asked, he was sure defendant, if he were a gentleman, would not lend him £5 to pay running up another bill. His wife, who had been attending him, came out, and the defendant walked towards her. Plaintiff said, "Pardon me, Sir, you are not aware of the unhappy state in which we live, and of the continually running me in debt?" He said, "Then it appears that you are the injured party. I have heard something of this. My name is Dr. Semple." Plaintiff then said, "Oh, if you knew all about it, I need say no more," and walked back to the front of the shop. That was all the passed. He was not excited; neither did he charge his wife with impropriety associating with other men. He never slept with a drawn sword in the bed; nor had he threatened to stab her. He never threatened to murder any one. The above interview was the only one he ever had with defendant. On the night of the 30th of June, about ten o'clock, when about to open his door with a key, he found a man from Barnsley, Mr. H. The latter said, "Is your name Hall?" Plaintiff replied, "Yes; what do you want of me?" The man said, "Some of your friends have sent me supper here, very good, and want you to come and join them." Plaintiff said, "You must make a mistake; you cannot mean me." When he was in the door he found it was a mistake. Another man then placed himself in front of him, saying, "You must go with us." He then saw a man round plaintiff's neck and the other round his waist, and they began to struggle desperately, tried to force him into a cab with which he stoutly drew up. He resisted violently, put one arm through the window and the other through the spokes of the wheel. The neighbours were alarmed and assembled round him. The men said they had a right to take him, and showed a paper which the policeman said he could not read by that light. He insisted upon being taken to the station, and when there he said to the inspector, "These men say they have authority to take me, he kind enough to look at it." He did so, and said, "Yes, Mr. Hall, this is a legal document, and I would advise you to go quietly with them." Plaintiff acted on that advice, got into the cab, the men with him, and they drove towards Falmham. They stopped at a public-house on the road, and one of them said, "You gave us a pretty good beating, and we are getting thirsty, and should like something to drink." They had some brandy and water, and he saw beer, but thinking something might have been put in the porter he threw it out of the cab window. He said for what was lost, Plaintiff was taken to Mansfield House Asylum, Falmham. He got there between twelve and one o'clock, and he was placed in a ward where there were male lunatics.

Shortly after his arrival at the asylum he was informed by the proprietor, Mr. Elliott, that he was discharged. His wife afterwards made a complaint against him (falsely, as he alleged), and he was bound over in his own recognizance of £10 to keep the peace. The defendant attended the hearing. Under his wife's pillow plaintiff found a certificate signed by defendant, and which ran thus:—

I hereby certify that Mrs. Hall is an illused woman, and that there is no truth in the infamous charges brought against her, but that she deserves the sympathy of her friends and of the public.

Numerous witnesses, including Dr. Stone, medical attendant at the asylum, testified to plaintiff's sanity. Mr. Elliott, of the asylum, said:—

He had examined the plaintiff again and again and discovered no indications of insanity. He had tested him closely respecting the statements in the certificate. The plaintiff spoke of his wife's conduct, especially in having him up before magistrates, and her extraordinary character and behaviour. And he spoke to statements of his contained in the certificates themselves, and asserted their truth. In particular, he stated that his wife was ruining him by continually annoying him in his business, &c. He did not remember anything being said as to his alleged statement that his wife had gone with other men.

Mr. Chambers—Was it your opinion that he was labouring under any delusion?

Witness (with great gravity and deliberation)—My opinion was that, if the facts he stated were true, he was not under any delusion. On the 1st of August the defendant wrote to him the following letter:—

"Sir,—I heard with surprise that it is in contemplation to send out of your asylum a man named Hall, who was taken there the other day. As the result is, in my opinion, a dangerous lunatic, and he is now confined under legal authority—one of the certificates being signed by myself—I beg that he may not be discharged until his wife, who is in danger of her life, has an opportunity of laying her case before the Commissioners in Lunacy, to whom she will appeal immediately; and I am willing to appear before the Commissioners to justify my own conduct in the matter."

The plaintiff was discharged upon the following certificate, signed by two Commissioners in Lunacy, who visited the asylum in performance of their duty:—

We had a long and special interview with the patient last received (Hall), and which suggested the necessity of a full inquiry into his case and history. In examining the certificates under which he was admitted on the 31st ult., it appeared that one of them, dated on the 29th of July, was founded on a visit to the patient on the 13th of June, and is, consequently, wholly invalid. It follows that the patient can no longer be legally detained. Patients' Book, Aug. 2.—The patient referred to was admitted on the 31st ult. The second certificate is signed by Mr. Gay, and is invalid, by reason of his stating that he examined the patient on the 13th of June.

The defence was not that the plaintiff was insane, but that the defendant had acted in good faith in giving the certificate upon his own observation, and upon representations made to him by his wife and others.

Mrs. Hall deposed that she charged her husband with cruelty all through her married life. It commenced the first month after their marriage. He had deserted her and neglected her. He left her a year and nine months after the marriage. After the second child was born he stripped the plates, left her, and he did not see her again for eleven months. He told the parish officers that she had done everything that was bad, but he would allow her 18s. a week for herself and the two children. He had always used bad language to her. In attempting to strike her once across the table he knocked out two of her mother's teeth, who was trying to defend her. He had threatened to take her life with a sword, and he used violence towards her every week. He had thrown water over her, and had made a paper funnel and blew blacklead over her. She gave him no provocation. In consequence of his threats they had slept apart for eight years. She had frequently told him that he was out of his mind, and that she would be obliged to have him confined in a lunatic asylum. He had for years slept with a drawn sword by the side of the bed. He would get crowds round the door, saying, "Here she is, drunk again, drunk again. Go upstairs, there's a good woman; you have just had one pint of brandy, and there is plenty upstairs." She was not in the habit of taking spirits, nor were any kept in the house. She attended sales, and sometimes pledged the things she purchased there. When he refused to give her money, which was always the case,

